

ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

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No. 306.—Vol. 12.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1861.

PRICE 2½D.—STAMPED, 3½D.

RECENT SPEECHES.

THE Queen and the Emperor have spoken, and neither the Emperor nor the Queen has said anything; but both Sovereigns have told us quite as much as was expected from them; and it was impossible that either Victoria or Napoleon III. should inform the world what England and France, separately or in alliance, intended to do in connection with the insurrections and wars of the coming spring, when no one knows precisely what line of action will be pursued by the chief Powers engaged. It appears certain that Hungary and the Hungarian "annexes" on the Danube will rise against Austria, and more than probable that the Danubian Principalities under the suzerainty of Turkey will take the same opportunity of declaring themselves independent of the Sultan. But it is by no means sure that the Venetians will endeavour to liberate themselves from Austria, or, if they do make the attempt, that they will be seconded in their efforts by Sardinia, or even by Garibaldi at the head of an expedition similar to the one which, under his auspices and leadership, made so successful a descent on the coasts of Sicily. But without aid the Venetians could do nothing against the well-disciplined, admirably-equipped, and thoroughly brave army of Austria; nor does it seem at all likely that such forces as Garibaldi, with all his military genius and patriotic fervour, could bring against the Quadrilateral would have much effect upon that formidable and indeed—as the word is generally used—impregnable fortress. Still, it is possible that the Austrians, provoked beyond bearing, will invade Lombardy (at least as possible as that, by the grant of a Constitution at something more than the eleventh hour, they will be able to conciliate Ventia); and, in that case, the French Emperor, without departing in any very flagrant way from the particular kind of foreign policy which he has just now, as on many former occasions, professed, might reasonably take up arms on behalf of his Sardinian relative and ally.

One other and far greater temptation might offer itself to the august Emperor of "Gaul." He might find Prussia heading the German Confederation in an attack upon Denmark; and if the German Confederation aids Prussia in any such shameful aggression upon a liberal, well-governed country—which, to state the whole case in a few words, simply objects to any interference with its domestic affairs on the part of a foreign

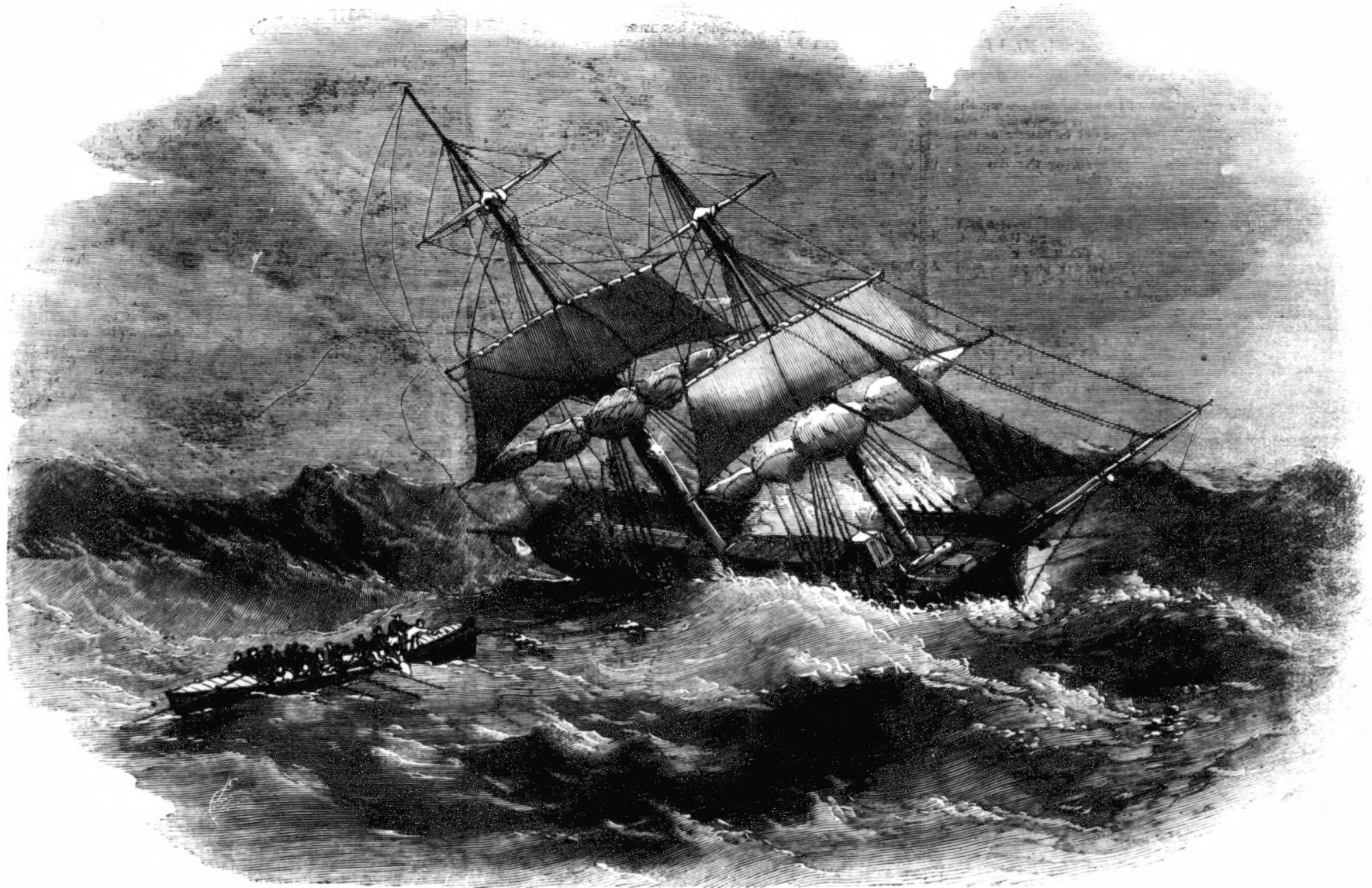
Power—we may be sure that Prussia and her satellites must have, in their turn, agreed, at any risk, to support Austria. Then "Gaul," considering the excellence of the opportunity, the like of which would seem never to have presented itself before in the whole history of Europe, would feel called upon to wage war against Germany, ostensibly for the sake of the Danish and of the Sardinian alliance (each of which would afford a sufficient pretext), but, in point of fact, that she might gain possession of that Rhine territory which, according to the Napoleonic geographers and ethnologists, is inhabited, not by Germans, but by "Gauls who speak the German language."

In our opinion it matters little whether Napoleon III., in his official speeches, says much or little; and perhaps, on the whole, it is better that he should say as little as possible. Language was not given to him to conceal or to make known his thoughts, but to enable him so to divulge them in part and to suppress them in part that at least no one should know whether he was speaking in all candour or in all possible dissimulation. From his address to the Chambers, however, we learn, what we already knew, that he will not fight unless he finds something in Europe worth fighting for, and also that he will continue his wise policy of not fighting unless he is tolerably sure beforehand of the victory.

It behoves us, then, by a determined policy of non-intervention, varied—or, rather, strengthened—if it should be necessary, by assurances of armed interference, to take care that no avoidable inducements to go to war are offered to the French Emperor. If Prussia proceeds to what, in diplomatic slang, is called "federal execution" in Holstein, we shall probably not have even to invite the French to refrain from assisting the Danes—though it is quite certain that France during the last twelve months has been urging Denmark to active resistance in various ways—but our Government ought to caution that of Prussia against aiding Austria in repelling any attack made upon territory which is not German as well as Austrian. In case of a combined advance on the part of the French and Sardinian armies against Austria—whether provoked or not—Prussia has clearly as much and, indeed, more right to support her federal ally than France has to fight the battles of a State which is only connected with it through a by no means creditable matrimonial transaction. The King of

Prussia, in his recent speech to the Chambers, spoke much more plainly than either the Queen of England or the Emperor of the French has done, and he admits the probability of a war with France at no very distant period. We fancy, if it occurs, that it will break out in the manner we have just pointed out; and it is something more strange that the Power which has most to fear from such a war should be willing just now, without the slightest necessity for so doing, to increase the number of its enemies. Prussia has little, selfish views of aggrandisement in the North to gratify, which, hopeless as they certainly are, for she seems ready to risk her very existence as a great Power.

Besides speeches from the great, we have, during the past week, had an oration from Mr. Bright. The two members for Birmingham addressed the same assembly, Mr. Scholefield arguing that, in the present aspect of European affairs, it would be impolitic and suicidal to reduce our naval and military establishments, while Mr. Bright held precisely the contrary. More than that, he maintained that, if the country was to be saved, it would be through economy, even in the face of a threatened invasion, though he endeavoured to convince his hearers that there was no chance or even possibility of such an invasion taking place. He reminded them that a "fosse," twenty miles in breadth at the narrowest part, separated us from France, and added that the French had as much reason to expect our invasion as we theirs! This he knew to be untrue; and, as every one in the room must have been equally aware of the untruthfulness and absurdity of the assertion, we are surprised that he should have made it. The best thing in Mr. Bright's speech, in the way of characteristic vulgarity, was the passage in which he accused our officers (who, as all who know what pay they receive can testify, get themselves killed on very economical terms) of living, when in London, in magnificent clubs. Mr. Bright is himself a member of the Reform, which, however objectionable some of its members may be, is as richly appointed as any institution of the kind in England. We like to hear a treacherous politician discussing a plain subject; and the manner in which Mr. Bright speaks of gentlemen who, he conceives, enjoy a pleasanter club-life than himself (a notorious clubster, by-the-way) may be taken as a sample of his general mode of dealing with other and more important questions.



WRECK OF THE SCHOONER "LOVELY NELLY" ON WHITLEY SANDS.

WRECK OF THE SCHOONER LOVELY NELLY ON THE NORTHUMBERLAND COAST.

OUR illustration represents one of the most fearful wrecks and noble life-boat services which have recently occurred. The Lovely Nelly was wrecked during a strong gale of wind from the eastward, and one of the heaviest ever experienced on the Northumberland coast. The storm had been brewing during the two previous days of the old year, and laden vessels on their voyage to London, being unable to struggle with the tempest, had put about and run past Shields to Leith Roads, above 100 miles to the north, for shelter. On New-Year's morning after daybreak the Coastguard men on the look-out upon Tynemouth Point observed a laden vessel, with a flag of distress up, endeavouring to get to the northward, but evidently unable to weather, and driving in upon the coast. Mr. Byrne, the chief boatman of the Coastguard, and his crew, with a number of the villagers, got Manby's apparatus out for saving life from shipwreck. They followed the vessel along the coast, and the entire fishing and seafaring population of the coast villages turned out with them, the headlands being in a short time lined with people anxiously watching the vessel. The spectacle was truly awful. The ship was deeply laden, part of her sails were blown away, and she rolled and tumbled about in the midst of raging seas which broke five miles out from the coast, evidently unmanageable. The vessel gradually surged in towards the coast. The crew made a last effort to save their lives, and ran her on to Whitley Sands, about four miles north of the Tyne. Being laden, however, she struck about three-quarters of a mile off the shore, and it was impossible that she could be reached by the rockets. Under these circumstances, the Coastguardmen and fishermen made off to Cullercoats for the Percy life-boat belonging to the National Life-boat Institution. Six horses were immediately put into the carriage, and it was galloped to the sands, launched, and promptly manned by a gallant crew. By this time the vessel had come broadside into the sea, her crew were in the rigging, and the waves were leaping over her half-mast high. The boat was pulled out and cleverly laid alongside the ship. The vessel was grappled, and the boat was held by a stout rope. The crew of the vessel, as soon as the life-boat got alongside, came down from the rigging, but three of them were immediately swept into the sea. The life-boat was, however, cleverly manoeuvred by her crew, and, in the providence of God, the three poor fellows were hauled into the life-boat, the last man being just caught by the hair of the head as he was sinking.

Two other men were got into the boat from the vessel, and only the little cabin-boy was then left on board. The cries of the poor lad for help were deeply affecting, for by this time the vessel was beginning to break up. He had got wounded in the head, and his face was covered with blood. His pitiable appearance seemed to wring the hearts of the brave men who manned the life-boat. A person in her says every face was blanched, and tears rolled down the brave fellows' cheeks as the life of the poor boy hung in the balance. They clenched their teeth, and with their own lives in their hands they made numerous efforts to save him, but were swept off each time by the sea, and were in the most imminent peril lest, by the ship parting, the masts should fall upon them and crush them, and their feeble craft be sent to ruin and destruction. The noble and heroic struggle was continued for several minutes with the warring elements for the poor boy's life. At last, overtopping the hoarse roar of the wind and waves, a manly voice cried out in piteous accents, "Cut the rope!" Not a moment could be lost, and she was swept under the vessel's stern. Immediately after the mainmast and sails fell with an awful crash just where the boat had lain a minute before, the vessel parted in two, and fell over with the poor lad. His hands were seen uplifted in the water for a minute or two and all was over. The life-boat then pulled to the shore, the crowds of people cheering her as she approached. The poor survivors of the ship's company were in a hapless condition, half perished with cold and fatigue, and one of them badly injured in the head. They were gently lifted out of the boat in strong men's arms as she touched the strand. Both men and women behaved nobly on the occasion. Several of the fishermen took off part of their dress and shawls from their heads to wrap them about the poor fellows, who were speedily taken to a neighbouring farmhouse, where they were most kindly treated. The vessel, which is now in fragments, her timbers and cargo of coal being scattered along the coast, is the Lovely Nelly, of Seaham. She had lost two men in the previous night, and the remainder of the crew were completely exhausted when she was run on shore.

We are indebted for the sketch of our illustration to Mr. J. Scott, a talented marine artist of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

We must before we conclude, add a word again on behalf of the National Life-boat Institution. It appears that, in addition to the 541 persons rescued from a watery grave by its life-boats during the past year, they also went off forty times in reply to signals of distress from vessels, which afterwards had either got out of danger or had their crews rescued by other means. Life-boat crews also assembled in stormy weather on several occasions, both during the day and night, in order to be ready for any emergency that might arise. For these valuable services the total amount paid was £838. On occasions of service and quarterly exercise during the year the life-boats were manned by upwards of 6000 persons. All the life-boat services took place in stormy weather, and frequently in the dark hour of the night. Surely, then, such an institution, with 108 life-boats under its charge, devoted to such worthy and comprehensive purposes, need not appeal for pecuniary support in vain. Much has been done, but much yet remains to be done. Munificent donations from the wealthy few have poured in, in some cases the establishment of a "perfect station" having been pre-erected; but it is from the contributions of the many, and the endowments of the humane, that such an establishment must derive its vitality and future power to keep up its immense life-saving fleet. We therefore trust that the National Life-boat Institution has only to be more generally known to be placed upon a more permanent and extended footing.

DISASTERS AT SEA.—The captain of the Henry Brigham, recently arrived at Liverpool, reports that on Wednesday, Jan. 16, about one o'clock a.m., when in lat. 43° N., and long. 42° W., they saw a light bearing S.E. Thinking it might be some ship in distress, they bore away and ran for the light until nearly half-past two o'clock, when the light disappeared, they again put the ship on her course. Shortly afterwards, however, the light flashed up a second time, when the captain decided to ascertain the cause, and again bore away in the direction of the light. At five a.m. he became satisfied there was a ship on fire, and in an hour and a half afterwards they came up to the burning vessel. At that time the top sides and deck were all burnt, and the whole centre of the ship was one mass of flame. The masts were lying under the lee of the vessel, and as the Henry Brigham passed they bore the stern full in with a tremendous crash. Subsequently, at about a mile from the burning vessel, they saw a boat, and stood for it, and on coming up to the boat they found that it contained the first officer, the carpenter, and a seaman, belonging to the British barque Mary Carson, which was on fire. Shortly afterwards they came up to another boat containing the captain and thirteen others, being the crew of the ill-fated vessel, all of whom they took on board. The Mary Carson had on board above 2000 bales of cotton and 5000 barrels of resin.—Three shipwrecks are reported. One was that of a ship called the David Brown, bound from San Francisco to Liverpool, with a valuable cargo of grain. She sprang a leak, and foundered in mid-ocean. Two boats, containing the passengers and crew, put out to sea, one of which was fortunate enough to be seen by the Sea Wave, which was on its voyage from Pernambuco to Liverpool. By this means twenty of the crew were saved when they were on the verge of starvation, but it is feared that the others have perished. The second calamity took place on the coast of the Isle of Wight, the barque Victor Emmanuel having gone on shore on Wednesday week with a loss of fifteen lives out of the nineteen constituting her crew. The third loss was that of the ship James Gibbs, which foundered, during a heavy gale, a few miles off Skelley. The captain's wife and four of the crew were drowned.

SIR BALDWIN WALKER is to take the command of the Cape of Good Hope and West Africa station, vice Sir Henry Koppell, who succeeds on the South-east Coast of America station Sir Stephen Lushington, whose period of command has expired.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

At the sitting of the Corps Legislatif on Tuesday, a paper containing an exposition of the present state of the empire was laid on the table. This document contains a statement of the condition of France; the finances; the agriculture, commerce, and public works; the system of public instruction, and of the courts of justice; and the strength of the army and navy; the condition of the colonies; and the relations of France with foreign Powers. Italian affairs, it need hardly be said, make a prominent feature of the review. Having glanced at the steps taken by the Emperor in endeavouring to arrange for the Pope the presidency of an Italian Confederation, the report proceeds to state that, when the revolution in Italy had broken out, the Emperor did not feel himself charged with the duty of reconquering Rome for the provinces which had been lost by the Court of Rome refusing to adopt his counsels. The Emperor was not unwilling to interpose between the insurrectionary party and a landing on the peninsula of Italy. Such measure of interposition, limited strictly to the object of allowing negotiations for a firm alliance to take place between Naples and Sardinia, and directed against the invasion of strangers to the former kingdom, would not, in the Emperor's opinion, have constituted an act of intervention in the affairs of the Two Sicilies. But the French Government deemed it advisable to seek the concurrence of the British Cabinet, which was refused. This refusal and the rapid movement of the revolution in Naples left nothing more to be done than simply to testify, by allowing the temporary protection of the fleet at Gaeta, the interest his Majesty felt in the position of a young Sovereign, the "victim of a political system which he had not consented to modify in time, but of which he was not the author." For the rest, to assure peace in Italy is declared to be the end to which the Government of the Emperor will consecrate all its efforts. With regard to Schleswig-Holstein, the Emperor, in accordance with Russia and England, uses all his influence on the score of conciliation. In Syria the report declares that France "pursues no political object, but solely obeys a sentiment of humanity."

The Emperor's Speech on opening the Legislative Chambers on Monday will be found in another column.

The *Moniteur* announces that "the treaty for the cession of Mentone and Roquebrune to France was signed on the 2nd of February with the Prince of Monaco."

SPAIN.

A popular disturbance took place at Madrid on the 29th. The printing-presses of the Royalist newspapers *El Equatore* and *L'Aurora* were broken. The semi-official *Correspondencia Autografa* states that a report is current that the Democrats and the partisans of Don Juan are actively conspiring.

PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Chamber of Deputies has just passed a resolution of great European importance. On the motion of Baron Vincke, after a six hours' debate, and notwithstanding the opposition of the Ministry, a majority of the Prussian deputies have formally declared "that it is neither for the interest of Prussia or Germany to place obstacles in the way of the unity of Italy." This resolution was carried as an amendment to the Address by 159 to 146 votes.

AUSTRIA.

The official *Gazette* of Vienna publishes an Imperial decree appointing Archduke Rainer President of the Imperial Ministry, and Count Nadassy President of the Council of the Empire. Count Rechberg still remains Minister of Foreign Affairs, while Baron von Schmerling has the charge of all affairs concerning the organisation of the empire, the national representation, public instruction, and public worship. The affairs of Hungary are not, however, included in the departments which fall to M. Schmerling's province. The powers confided by this arrangement to Baron Schmerling are very important and extensive, and are calculated to assure the Liberal party of the intention of the Emperor to fulfil the promises he has made; at the same time the union of two men of such opposite politics as Count Rechberg and Count Schmerling is an anomaly that may create embarrassment and doubt.

The Prince Primate of Hungary has issued an address to the Comitats, in which he condemns all hasty measures on the part of his countrymen, and advises them to await patiently the assembling of the Diet. Baron Vay, the Chancellor of Hungary, has addressed a letter to the Cardinal Primate relative to the late Imperial protest against the proceedings of the Comitats. The Chancellor says that if these proceedings continue the meeting of the Diet must be indefinitely postponed. Meanwhile he pledges himself for the sincerity of his Sovereign. If the advice of such sincere friends and patriots be adopted by their countrymen the best results must inevitably follow to Hungary.

Numbers of the Hungarian soldiers on furlough who had been ordered to return have already arrived at their quarters.

The semi-official *Donau Zeitung* gives a denial to the news published by some German journals, that a treaty relating to the Danubian Principalities had been concluded between Russia and Austria.

DENMARK.

The Danish Diet has been closed. The King, in his reply to the President's speech, said:—"Should they come near us my people will defend themselves if I call upon them to do so."

The semi-official *Bertlingske Tidende*, in publishing this speech, makes the following remarks:—

Should German troops enter Holstein without being called upon to do so by our Sovereign, and contrary to his wish, a violation of territory would then take place, and the Federal Diet would in fact have declared war against Denmark. War, at the present moment, would be inconvenient for Germany, and is consequently convenient for Denmark. A state of armed peace exhausts the strength of a country and weakens popular enthusiasm, without which a small people cannot make war. By a blockade we can now damage the commerce of Germany and ruin the Prussian ports for a long period. The conflict must, therefore, now terminate either by war or by negotiation.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The Sultan is said by some accounts to have definitively refused to extend the French occupation of Syria.

The Paris papers publish a telegram from Constantinople, dated the 2nd of February, announcing that the European Commission at Beyrout had proposed to establish in Syria one sole Government for the Christian inhabitants, under the protection of the European Powers. According to the same telegram the Porte had proposed the establishment of two Governments, with General Councils composed of Christian and Mussulman members. A conference on this subject will probably be held in Paris.

Tidings from Beyrout allege that a large number of Druses, some 1200 or thereabouts, had assembled for the avowed purpose of preventing the execution of those condemned to death because of their share in the massacres.

Disturbances have again broken out, according to the *Pays*, in the Herzegovina. Massacres by the Montenegrins are stated to have taken place in Turkish territory, and several Turkish villages are said to have been burned.

AMERICA.

The intelligence from the United States is of a mixed character. Colonel Hayne, commanding the States forces in Florida, has telegraphed to President Buchanan that he will not attack Fort Pickens, and that the Southern States will avoid a collision, in the hope of an amicable adjustment, and from a desire to preserve peace.

But the Charleston populace is dissatisfied with this policy, and an attack on Fort Sumter was expected. General Scott is fortifying Washington; and the secession movement continues. The senators from Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi have withdrawn from the Senate, and Georgia has signed a secession ordinance. The financial state of the Government is also unsatisfactory. The Secretary of the Treasury has reported that the expenditure for carrying on the Government till the 1st of July will exceed the revenue by 20,000,000 dols. The Senate has passed the bill for the admission of Kansas into the Union.

INDIA.

The Bombay papers add but little to the information received by telegraph. The reason given by Lord Canning for refusing the despatch on the Mysore grant is the incompleteness of the correspondence, but he promises to transmit the resolutions passed in the Legislative Council to the Secretary of State, who alone can order that the history of the proposed grant shall be made known. The message also states that no money has yet been paid on account of the extraordinary grant of £520,000, and that nothing beyond the usual yearly pensions to the Mysore family has been included in any of the estimates hitherto laid before the Legislative Council.

AFFAIRS OF ITALY.

THE SICILIES.

A TELEGRAM announced last week that a flag of truce had been sent from Gaeta, and that one of Admiral Persano's vessels had gone towards the garrison. We have since received intelligence from Genoa, which, if correct, would explain this circumstance. It is affirmed that a French despatch-boat had brought a letter to General Cialdini containing a letter from the Emperor of the French for Francis II. This document is represented to have contained urgent counsel to Francis II. to cease his resistance, in order to save himself from the humiliation of a capitulation. The flag of truce sent out from Gaeta to the Sardinian fleet is supposed to have borne with it the reply of Francis II., declaring that he will hold out to the last.

Meanwhile, scarcely any tidings of a definite character are received from the place of siege. The projectiles of the Sardinians are said, by Roman accounts, to have been directed especially against the city. On the 31st ult. a convent was nearly destroyed, and Monsignor Crescevole, Superior of the seminary, was mortally wounded.

A manifesto has been published in some of the Italian papers purporting to be addressed by Francis II. to the people of Sicily. It appeals to "the Sicilians to receive" a Monarch who "opens his paternal arms" to them—to give a refuge to a Royal family "now abandoned, indeed, but instructed by suffering." In consideration of the Sicilians returning to their allegiance and receiving back their expelled Monarch, the proclamation offers to grant them a new Constitution based upon that of 1812, and which would allow them a separate Government, a diminished taxation, and the blessing of the Monarch's own presence among them four months every year, and one of the Royal family for Viceroy during the remainder of the time, along with other concessions.

Several arrests have taken place in Naples, in consequence of the discovery of a reactionary conspiracy. Naples is at present tranquil. The remainder of the garrison has left the city to be added to the besieging force before Gaeta, and Naples is now guarded by militia; some fresh corps of foreign volunteers are being organised there.

The remaining elections in Italy have been completed with perfect order, and the Ministry have obtained a large majority. Ruggiero Settimo is appointed President of the Senate.

THE PAPAL STATES.

The Court of Rome seems disposed to back out of its connection with the reactionary movement in the Abruzzi. The Pope has accordingly ordered his soldiers to return to Rome, notwithstanding the opposition of Mgr. de Merode, by whom and Count Trapani it is reported the reactionary movement was organised. His Holiness has also given up the Sardinian prisoners of war. The Sardinians, on their side, on the representations of the Emperor Napoleon, have evacuated the Papal territory.

DEATH OF MARSHAL BOSQUET.

THE death of this distinguished French General is announced by telegram from Paris.

Marshal Bosquet, formerly Commander of the first division of the French army of the Crimea, was born in 1810 at Pau, in the department of the Lower Pyrenees. In 1829 he entered the Polytechnic School, which he left four years after to join the artillery as a Sub-Lieutenant. He became Captain in 1839, Chef-de-Bataillon in 1842, Lieutenant-Colonel in 1845, and Colonel in 1848. Also in 1848 he was named General of Brigade by the Republican Government, and sent to Algeria. His elevation to the rank of General of Division was the work of the Emperor, who, in 1854, placed him on the staff of Marshal St. Arnaud's army, then proceeding to the Crimea. The Marshal placed great confidence in Bosquet, and at the Alma appointed him to effect a flank movement on the left wing of the Russians, and turn their batteries before the action became general. When at length the decisive blow was struck, on the 8th of September, 1855, General Bosquet took a leading part in the capture of the Malakoff, where he was unfortunately wounded by the bursting of a shell. The Emperor Napoleon elevated him to the dignity of Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour; and on returning from the Crimea he was treated in France with high distinction, and raised to the rank of Marshal. In 1856 he was made an honorary Knight of the Grand Cross of the Bath.

THE FLEUR-DE-LYS TREASONABLE.—By a decision of the Paris Court of Appeal (Cassation), jewellers and all manufacturers of fancy articles are fully informed that it is unlawful in France, in virtue of a Napoleonic decree, in 1832, against factious or treasonable emblems, banners, &c., to introduce the fleur-de-lys on any jewel, bracelet, cabinet-work, tapestry, or upholstery; and accordingly the tribunal at Riom, which, on Nov. 28 of last year, gave a more lenient interpretation to the law (1), was wrong, and is rebuked.

BRITISH-AMERICAN FISHERIES.—The advices from the St. Lawrence fisheries are very satisfactory. Of Fox River, Gaspe, the catch of cod has been enormous. This stands in broad contrast to the unfortunate state of things in Cape Breton and Newfoundland. In both these countries the fisheries are a total failure, and the advices represent the people to be in a state of starvation. It is a singular fact that the best kinds of fish have for several years been moving up towards the St. Lawrence, and there is now said to be better fishing in the Gulf than on the banks of Newfoundland.

THE GREEK TRADE.—The whole of the Greek trade is disorganised. Five houses in this department of business stopped payment on Saturday week, and three or four more on Saturday last. The larger houses have for some time past been preparing for the storm, which they foresaw was almost inevitable. It is hoped, therefore, that they are now beyond the reach of its effects. This belief is confirmed by the known wealth and large available means possessed by many of them; but as regards the smaller houses in the trade the prospect is one of serious embarrassment. Their outstanding engagements appear to be quite out of proportion to their immediate resources. From the excitement and alarm which are reported as prevailing in mercantile circles in Constantinople, there is too much reason to fear that the reliance which is placed upon assistance from their connections in that quarter may be falsified.

BELGIAN CITIZENSHIP.—A somewhat interesting question came before one of the recent sittings of the Belgian Representative Chamber. A petition was presented praying that the citizenship of those who had, without Government authority, taken arms to serve the Papal cause might not be forfeited. The Chamber rejected the petition by a considerable majority.

A DEPUTATION from the commanding officers of the metropolis and county of Middlesex waited on Lord De Grey on Wednesday to present an address upon his retirement. Lord Elcho read the address.

THE FRENCH EMPEROR'S SPEECH.

The following is the speech delivered by his Majesty the Emperor on the opening of the Legislative Session of 1861, on Monday:—

"MESSIEURS LES SENATEURS,
"MESSIEURS LES DEPUTES,

"The Speech at the opening of each Session sums up in a few words the past events and the projects of the future. Up to this day that communication, restricted in its nature, has not put my Government in relations intimate enough with the great bodies of the State, and these bodies were thus deprived of the means of strengthening the Government by their public adhesion or assisting it by their advice.

"I have decided that every year a general statement of the situation of the empire should be placed before you, and that the more important diplomatic despatches should be laid before your bureaux. You can also, in your Address express your opinions on the facts of the day, not, as formerly, by a simple paraphrase of the Speech from the Throne, but by the free and loyal expression of your opinion.

"That improvement initiates the country more fully into a knowledge of its own affairs, and makes better known to it those who govern as well as those who sit in the Chambers; and, notwithstanding its importance, this change does not alter in any way the spirit of the Constitution.

"Formerly, you are aware, the suffrage was limited. The Chamber of Deputies possessed, it is true, more extended privileges, but the large number of public functionaries who formed part of it gave to the Government a direct power of action on its resolutions. The Chamber of Peers also voted the laws, but the majority could be at any moment deposed by the addition of new members. Finally, the laws were not always discussed according to their merit, but following the chance which their adoption or rejection would have in maintaining or upsetting a Ministry. From that there ensued little sincerity in deliberation, little stability in the progress of the Government, and little useful work accomplished.

"To-day all the laws are prepared with care and mature deliberation by a Council composed of enlightened men who give their advice on all measures to be taken.

"The Senate, guardian of the fundamental compact, uses the conservative power of its own initiative only in grave circumstances, and not only examines the laws on the sole consideration of their constitutionality, but constitutes a true court of political appeal, and is composed of a number of members that cannot be exceeded.

"The Legislative Corps, it is true, does not mix itself in all the details of Administration, but it is elected directly by universal suffrage, and does not count in its body any public functionary. It discusses the laws with the most complete freedom. If they are rejected, it is a warning of which the Government takes notice, but their rejection does not shake the Government nor arrest the progress of affairs, and does not oblige the Sovereign to take for counsellors the men who have not his confidence.

"Such are the principal differences between the present Constitution and that which preceded the revolution of February.

"Exhausted, gentlemen, during the vote on the Address all points of discussion according to the proportion of their importance, that you may have the power afterwards to devote yourselves entirely to the affairs of the country; for, if these points demand a profound and conscientious examination, the other interests in their turn impatiently expect prompt decisions.

"On the eve of more detailed explanations, I will limit myself to recalling to mind, summarily, that which has been done at home and abroad.

"At home all the measures that have been taken tend to increase the agricultural, commercial, and industrial production. The dearth of all things is the inevitable consequence of the increasing prosperity, but at least ought we to seek to render articles of first necessity the least dear. It is with that view that we have diminished the duties on raw materials, have signed a Treaty of Commerce with England, have projected or contracted other treaties with neighbouring countries, and facilitated everywhere the means of communication and of transport.

"To realise these economical reforms we have renounced 90,000,000 of annual receipts, yet the Budget will be presented to you in equilibrium, without its having been necessary to have recourse to the creation of new taxes or to the public credit, as I announced to you last year.

"The changes introduced into the administration of Algeria have vested the superior direction of affairs in the population themselves. The illustrious services of the Marshal placed at the head of the colony are guarantees of order and prosperity.

"Abroad I have endeavoured to prove in my relations with foreign Powers that France sincerely desires peace; that, without renouncing a legitimate influence, she does not pretend to interfere anywhere where her interests are not at stake; and, finally, that if she entertains sympathies for all that is noble and grand, she does not hesitate to condemn everything tending to violate personal rights and justice.

"Events difficult to foresee have arisen to complicate in Italy a situation already sufficiently embarrassing.

"My Government, in accord with its allies, has believed that the best means of obviating the greatest dangers was to have recourse to a principle of our policy of non-intervention which leaves each country master of its destinies, localises questions, and prevents them from degenerating into European conflicts.

"I certainly do not ignore the fact that this system has the inconvenience of appearing to authorise many annoying excesses, and extreme opinions would prefer the one that France should take part with all kinds of revolutions, the other that she should put herself at the head of a general reactionary movement. I shall not allow myself to be turned aside from my course by either of these opposing influences. It is enough for the grandeur of the country that it should maintain its right where it is indispensable, to defend its honour where it is attacked, to lend its assistance where it may be invoked in favour of a just cause.

"It is thus that we have maintained our right in causing the acceptance of the cession of Savoy and Nice. These provinces are at the present day irrevocably united to France.

"It is thus that, to avenge our honour in the extreme East, our flag, united with that of Great Britain, has floated victoriously from the walls of Peking, and that the cross—emblem of Christian civilisation—again surmounts the temples of our religion, closed for more than a century.

"It is thus that, in the name of humanity, our troops have gone to Syria, in virtue of a European convention, to protect Christians against a blind fanaticism.

"At Rome I have thought it necessary to augment the garrison when the security of the Holy Father appeared to be menaced. I dispatched my fleet to Gaeta at the moment when it seemed the last refuge of the King of Naples. After leaving it there for four months I have withdrawn it, however worthy of sympathy a Royal misfortune so nobly supported might appear.

"The presence of our ships obliged us to infringe every day that principle of neutrality which I had proclaimed, and gave room for erroneous interpretations. Indeed, you know that in politics people do not believe in purely disinterested acts.

"Such is a rapid explanation of the state of the general affairs. Now that apprehensions are dissipated and confidence consolidated, why should not commercial and industrial affairs renew their activity?

"My firm determination is not to enter on any conflict where the cause of France is not based upon right and justice. What, therefore, have we to fear? Can a united and compact nation, numbering 40,000,000 of souls, anticipate either being drawn into a struggle the object of which she does not approve, or being provoked by any menace?

"The first virtue of a people is to have confidence in itself, and not to allow itself to be moved by imaginary alarms. Let us look, therefore, at the future with calmness, in the full confidence of our power, as of our loyal intentions. Let us devote ourselves, without exaggerated anxiety, to the development of the germs of prosperity that Providence has placed in our hands."

THE BONAPARTE CASE.

THE Bonaparte case received a second hearing yesterday week, when M. Berryer replied to some misstatements in the speech of the opposing advocate.

M. Berryer began his reply by saying that, the course taken by the other side rendering it necessary for him to speak at greater length than he had intended, he would not waste time by answering allusions personal to himself, or the accusation that this cause was instituted merely in order to be argued, and not with the expectation of being won. His adversary was free to treat as a "light chimera, floating in the air," the marriage against the validity of which "all the irregular arms of an absolute Monarch had been exhausted." Stress had been laid upon the ripe age of Miss Patterson at the time of the marriage. It had been said that she was twenty-three and Jerome Bonaparte nineteen. The facts were that she was eighteen and he twenty-one and upwards, as was proved by his Lieutenant's commission. He utterly denied that Miss Patterson had ever made use of the degrading expression imputed to her by M. Allou, that she would run the risk if she could "only be his wife for an hour." Upon the question of "clandestinity," he ridiculed the idea of calling a marriage clandestine which, had been long in contemplation, and was finally celebrated by a Bishop in the presence of the French Consul. On the point of "good faith," he urged that by the law of France, when Jerome Bonaparte left it, he was of age, and had the power of contracting a valid marriage at twenty-one, and that although M. Pichou, the Chargé d'Affaires, had told him that there was a new law, he might well have supposed that the new law had not yet come in force, not having been regularly promulgated. M. Pichou, of whom so much had been spoken, had a spite against Jerome Bonaparte, who he feared would be appointed Ambassador to the United States in his place. The want of publication of bans in France was only an irregularity, and no cause of nullity. That was the undoubted doctrine of the Court of Cassation. Moreover, the policy of the law being that children should not be left in a state of uncertainty as to their legitimacy, a suit for nullity of marriage was not maintainable after the status of a married couple had been acquired. That status had lasted from 1803 to 1806, and was not to be disputed. He understood that M. Troplong denied having been a party to a legal opinion upon the strength of which the Emperor wrote to Prince Jerome in 1854 that the son of his first marriage was legitimate. Since M. Troplong said so, of course he must believe him. He had not said that M. Troplong had signed it; but the opinion would be produced, and whether it was in the handwriting of M. Troplong or M. Abbattucci was no matter. He denied that the nullity of the marriage had ever been "regularly" applied for, and it was now too late to make the demand. On the question, unimportant in a legal point of view, whether the Pope, as stated by the other side, must be taken to have changed his opinion—since, although he refused to set aside the first marriage, he recognised the second with the Princess Catherine of Wurtemberg—M. Berryer said that the congratulations sent by the Pope on the occasion of the latter marriage were mere polite formalities, and he read a passage from his Holiness's letter expressing a hope that "circumstances of which he was ignorant had no doubt changed the character of the marriage, which he had formerly recognised in a religious point of view." He strenuously denied that the decree of the Emperor Napoleon I., supposing it to be regularly issued as a decree (which it was not), was of any force to annul a marriage contracted before he was Emperor. The Senatus Consultum of Prairial Year XII had given him no such power. Moreover, at the time of his decree, Jerome had not been created a French Prince, and consequently was not subject to the Emperor's jurisdiction. The Emperor well knew that his decree was inoperative, for subsequently to the date of it he told the Pope that, if his Holiness would break the religious marriage tie, the Emperor would get the civil marriage dissolved afterwards. He had learned from the Arch-Chancellor Cambacerès that the judicial tribunals were alone competent to decide the question.

In reply to the precedent brought forward by M. Allou of a marriage of the Duc de Berri with a Miss Brown, he said he had received documents from London completely proving this story to be untrue. It had been hoped to embarrass him by lugging this tale into the case. But he was not the man to contradict himself out of complaisance, and he would say that if the Count de Chambord had been capable of writing the said letters which he had read under the signature of Prince Napoleon Bonaparte he would not have asked him to deny the relationship. (Loud applause at the bottom of the court.)

The President: "Maitre Berryer, will you stop? Let all those people at the bottom of the court be turned out."

This order was executed. M. Berryer concluded by insisting that the decision of the family council left the question in the cause untouched, and that Mrs. Patterson was no party to it. It had been observed that, although there had been a change of jurisdiction, there had been no injustice. But he would remind the Court that there was no such thing as justice without a regular jurisdiction, and that he would rather appeal to them, the Judges, than to public opinion, however favourable that might be to his cause.

In the course of his argument tending to discredit the letters of M. Pichou (in 1803) as evidence against the "good faith" with which the marriage was contracted, and in support of his theory that M. Pichou was a personal enemy of Jerome Bonaparte, he read a curious letter from the latter in answer to a complaint that he had denounced M. Pichou to the First Consul.

New York, Nov. 18, 18 3.

Jerome Bonaparte to the Citizen Pichou, Commissary-General of Commercial Relations.

I have received your letter, citizen, at New York, where I arrived this morning. M. Lecamus duly delivered your message; but you must admit that your conduct is quite at variance with your words. When I wrote to the First Consul I only communicated to him what you said in the presence of General Rewbell and M. Lecamus. I could not possibly allow my brother to be ignorant that such things were said, and I assure you that I only reported exactly what I heard. The principal things that you said were these three. First, that the only reason for the war was that the First Consul wanted to revenge himself upon the English newspapers. Secondly, you told General Rewbell, who had observed that it was well for a soldier to make his observations in America, since nobody knew what might happen, that the Consul had countries enough to govern without trying to get others. Thirdly, you said to him that Frenchmen were now more states than ever, and that there was no such thing as law, whether civil or military, in France. This, citizen, is what I told the Consul; this, citizen, is exactly what you said to me in the carriage in the presence of General Rewbell, and my secretary, M. Lecamus. I now ask you whether you would have done less? I ask you, moreover, whether you would have been so moderate, for you must remember that I did not answer you a word? I only speak to you, citizen, of this affair to show that I have done my duty.

I send a copy of this letter to the First Consul. JEROME BONAPARTE.

M. Berryer also read an affectionate letter from Prince Napoleon to the plaintiff, M. J. Bonaparte, dated so lately as July 25, 1854, in which was the following passage:—

I have gone through a great deal, but I am glad to find that your kind feeling remains unchanged. It is with a real satisfaction that I hail the union of these family sentiments with personal sympathy. I appreciate them the more because I cannot say as much of all my relations. As to my sister (the Princess Mathilde), more especially, she is to me a stranger. These had reflections ought not to guide my pen, now that I feel a real joy in remembering me to your fraternal souvenir. I know not what fate, the

war may have in store for me. I hope something will be decided before the winter. A thousand good wishes to your son, whom I embrace and love already on account of all the good that I have heard of him.

Your affectionate brother, NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

M. Allou, replying to M. Berryer, began by repeating his assertion that the marriage was contracted "rashly," and in "fraud of the law." In support of this argument, that the marriage was "clandestine" in a legal point of view, he insisted greatly upon the fact that it had been solemnised suddenly two months after it had been broken off in consequence of the legal objections raised by the French Ambassador; and, in spite of the evidence that it had taken place in the Cathedral of Baltimore, the Bishop of the diocese officiating, the French Consul present, and the French Ambassador invited (whether he came or not), he further urged, upon the strength of a letter from Admiral Willaumez, dated on board the *Poursuivante*, Jan. 18, 1804, that it was celebrated with the "utmost secrecy." To show that there were doubts even in America about the validity of the marriage in question, M. Allou, with doubtful discretion, read a letter from a volunteer witness—one Mr. Gould—in favour of Prince Napoleon. This gentleman, in a letter to the Prince, said:—

It was notorious in the United States that Miss Patterson had knowingly run the risk of being only a morganatic wife in the hope of sharing the high position to which she might aspire as the legitimate spouse of a Bonaparte. This statement is so notorious in America, that Miss Patterson has no sympathy as a young girl deceived and a legitimate wife repudiated. They say in America that she played a great game and lost it. I cannot dare to hope that I can be of the least use to your Highness. But I have thought it almost a duty to make the above statement. I beg, in conclusion, to put myself altogether at your Highness's disposition, in case you would do me the honour to see me, or to make use in any whatever of my respectful desire to render you service.

M. Allou insisted very strongly that the matter had been definitively adjudicated upon both by Napoleon I. and the family council of Napoleon III., and read a letter from M. Troplong denying that he was any party to an opinion in favour of the legitimacy of M. Bonaparte, alleged by M. Berryer to have been signed by him and the late M. Abbattucci, and M. Baroche. [It is to be remarked that M. Baroche, who is now alive and holds the office of President of the Council of State, has not denied that he signed such an opinion.] The case was adjourned to Friday (yesterday).

SCOTLAND.

MURDER BY A MAD WOMAN.—A lunatic woman was brought from Aberdeen to the County Police Office, Perth, last week, charged with the murder of her natural son, who was about four years of age. It appears that the accused showed symptoms of insanity at the beginning of last week. Under these circumstances it was deemed expedient to watch her movements, and accordingly her husband and brother sat up with her on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights. They also sat up with her on Wednesday, but being overcome with fatigue they had fallen asleep, when Mrs. McGregor rose from her bed, and, getting possession of a razor, cut the back part of the head of her son from ear to ear. On the husband awaking, about eight o'clock, he noticed his wife on the floor, upon which he ordered her to go to bed. She attempted to conceal the razor, which she still held in her hand, and it was not wrested from her until she had inflicted several severe wounds on her own throat. The boy was then discovered lying in the bed in the state already described. He died in about two hours. When the woman was taken to the police-office she was somewhat outrageous, but gradually became more calm.

THE PROVINCES.

SUSPICIOUS.—Some boatmen found on the shore at Seacombe, opposite Liverpool, yesterday week, the decomposed body of a respectable-dressed man. In his pocket were twenty-five 10-dollar pieces, four 20-dollar pieces, fourteen 5-dollar pieces, and twenty-one dollars, all in American money, and smaller sums in French francs. The body, in the course of the day, was identified by Mr. Vandepitte, of the Edoon-street Roman Catholic chapel, as that of Alexis Tinet, a Roman Catholic priest. He left Mr. Vandepitte's to go to the American steamer which sailed on the 5th of January, and nothing was heard of him since till his body was found in the river. At the inquiry opened later in the day it appeared that the deceased belonged to a highly influential and respectable family in Paris, and was considered one of the most eloquent and powerful preachers in the French capital. He was an intimate friend of the first Chaplain of the Emperor. On a recent occasion he preached a sermon in Paris which was strongly directed against the Emperor; and in a short time afterwards the Attorney-General of France demanded him to produce his mass receipts during a period of six years. This he was unable to do in consequence of the long period which had elapsed. The Attorney-General then told him that unless he produced those receipts he would be in gaol the next day. Soon afterwards he left Paris for America, and he was certainly much excited at times when speaking of the Emperor. He had in his possession several letters of the Emperor, and it appeared there had been considerable correspondence between them. One of the witnesses said that he had received several letters from his family at Paris since the deceased had been missing. An open verdict of "Found drowned" was returned.

BRUTAL MURDER AT HUDDERSFIELD.—On Saturday night a shocking murder was perpetrated at Huddersfield. A few minutes before twelve a man named Smith was proceeding towards his home in Upper-head-row. On his way he entered Black Lion-passage, when three men, named Kilanney (a private in the 34th Regiment of Foot), Norton (a dyehouse labourer), and Ireland (a cloth-dresser of Lindley, near Huddersfield), went to him. Norton lived in that yard, and he and the soldier commenced abusing Smith, who at once remonstrated with them. He ran into the middle of the road, but they followed him. The police, however, parted them from him, and sent Smith down Spring-street, and the others towards Swallow-street, and proceeded on their rounds. It appears that Norton was aware that Smith would have to return up the street to go home, and he and his companions waited for the unfortunate man, and watched him into Swallow-street, when they kicked him, knocked him down, and ill-used him so severely that he died shortly afterwards. The three men have been apprehended.

DIED OF LOVE.—A young woman was found dead in a field near Hanbrook, Gloucestershire. The body was half reclining on a bank, and bleeding at the mouth. As she had been seen out with her sweetheart late at night in that very field, it was at once suspected that the young man had strangled her. But there were no marks of violence, and the medical men are of opinion she died of palpitation of the heart.

THE INDIAN CONFERENCE.—The conference held at Manchester last week to discuss the financial and commercial position of India was presided over by Mr. E. Potter, and among the gentlemen present were Mr. J. E. Turner, M.P., Mr. Bazley, M.P., Mr. Massey, M.P., the Hon. Algernon Egerton, M.P., the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., and deputations from several of the chief seats of industry interested in Indian affairs. Resolutions were passed deploring the present financial position of our Eastern empire, and pointing out some of the leading causes which have led to this state of things; recommending the "resumption and completion of reproductive public works;" urging the Government to afford every encouragement to European traders, planters, and capitalists; and deprecating the high customs duties imposed by the late Mr. Wilson, tending to "check the expansion of trade, and, in the case of imports, to foster native manufactures under a false system of protection, reversing the free-trade policy under which our own country has made rapid progress in civilisation, influence, and wealth."

A MAN SEVENTY-THREE YEARS OLD CHARGED WITH MURDER.—An extraordinary attempt at murder has been perpetrated in the parish of Pentreby, South Wales; and at the magistrates' session at Llantrissant, before the Rev. Evan Morgan and Mr. W. Perkin, Charles Thomas, a man of seventy-three years of age, who formerly worked in the employ of Messrs. Booker, was charged with the offence. It appears from the evidence that the prisoner formerly earned 12s. a week; but a few months ago his employers reduced him (he being unequal to any remunerative labour) to a nominal wage or pension of 5s. a week and his coal. The old man took it into his head that a fellow-workman named Kent and his wife had had something to do with the reduction in his income. Accordingly, he attempted to cut the unfortunate woman's throat when she came to his cottage to return a steel-yard she had borrowed. The prisoner was committed by the magistrate to take his trial at the next county assizes.

DEATH OF AN INVALID FROM ILL-TREATMENT.—Elizabeth Fisher, aged thirty-five, was subjected to such neglect and cruelty, whilst bedridden at the house of her brother, Henry Fisher, a gunner of the coast brigade Royal Artillery, that she died a few days since. A coroner's jury has returned the following verdict:—"That the death of Elizabeth Fisher was accelerated by cruel neglect and brutal treatment on the part of her brother, Henry Fisher, and the jury also recommend that a communication be made to the commandant of the garrison, directing his attention to the lax manner in which the duty of inspecting married soldiers' residences has been carried out during the past three months." Fisher was, accordingly, conveyed to prison.

BARON SCHMERLING,
THE AUSTRIAN MINISTER FOR THE
HOME DEPARTMENT.

SINCE the Peace of Villafranca no perfectly satisfactory measure has been carried out by the Cabinet of Vienna. Instead of advancing boldly and decidedly in the great work of reform, every step towards the attainment of that desired object has been taken tardily and reluctantly; in short, nothing has been done which was not imperatively demanded by the most pressing necessity. This method of doling out reform bit by bit has had so baneful an influence on public opinion in Vienna that even Baron Schmerling's appointment to office has not had the effect of restoring confidence in the good intentions of the Austrian Government. Under other circumstances the reappearance of such a man on the scene of public life would have afforded the securest guarantee of improvement, for Schmerling was the originator, or at all events the chief promoter, of all the great reforms of 1849—reforms which promised to mould Austria into the form of a modern constitutional State. But Baron Schmerling retired from office when the reactionary movement obtained the ascendancy, and established its ten years' dominion.

Schmerling has now promulgated his principles in a ministerial programme, which is imbued with a just, liberal, and humane spirit. It comprises, among other important points, freedom of religious worship, and its natural consequence—civil and political equality; the nationality of different peoples will be granted and assured; the press will be relieved from the restrictions with which it is at present fettered, and the decisions of justice are to be controlled by perfect publicity. The accomplishment of these and other measures comprised in Schmerling's programme will, no doubt, be a great advance in the direction of the desired end. Whether that end will ever be attained remains to be seen.



BARON SCHMERLING, THE AUSTRIAN MINISTER FOR THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

**THE PIEDMONTESE MORTAR
BATTERY AT GAETA.**

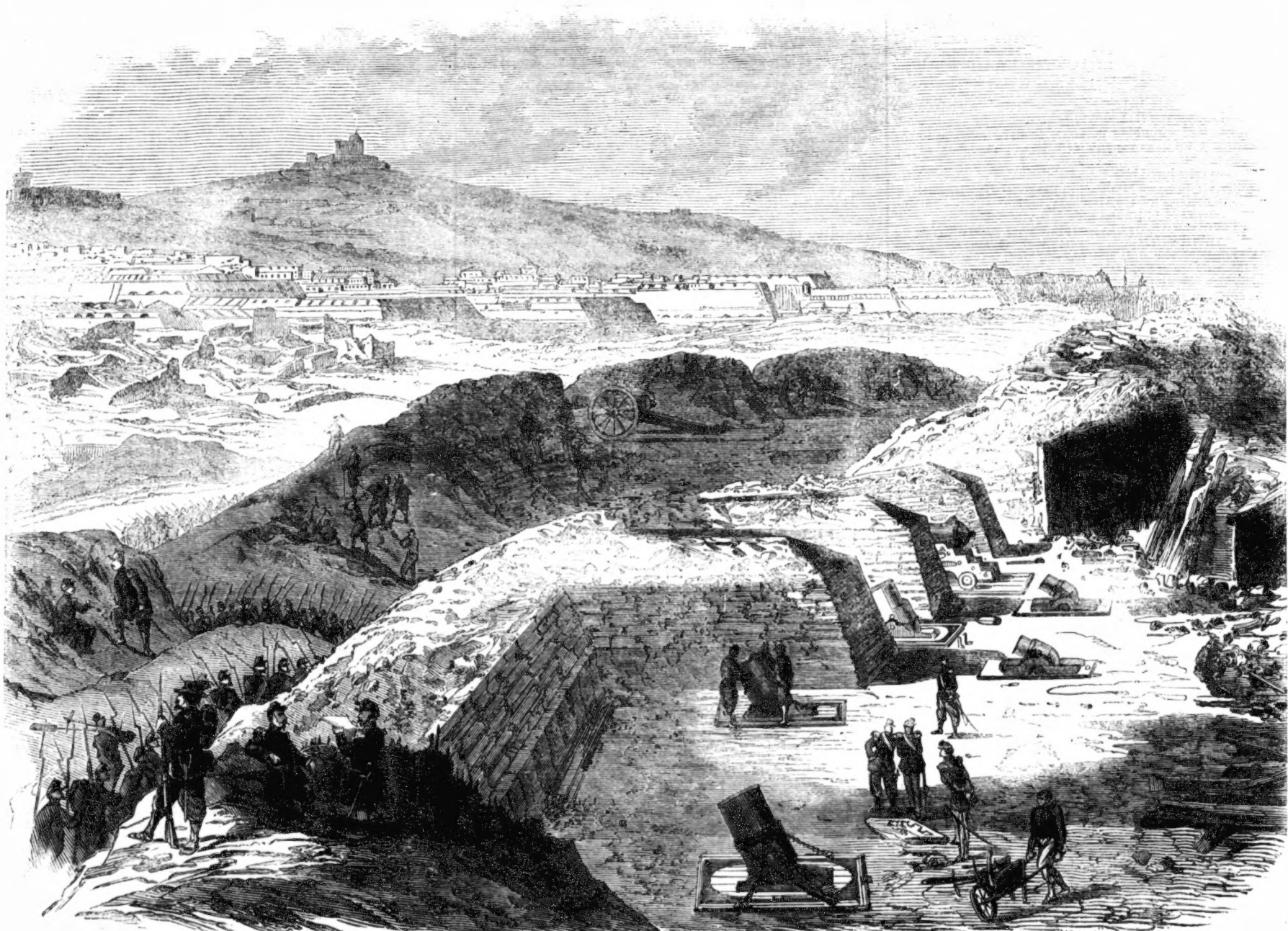
AFFAIRS at Gaeta still linger, and the obstinate folly of Francis II. prolongs a struggle, of which both parties must be weary, for the last rood or two of land left to the Monarch whom an indignant nation spurns from its shores.

It is obvious that the late King of Naples has little to expect from European interference, even though he has at almost every fresh reverse, and at suitable intervals, issued wailing protests and cries for immediate assistance. The presence of the French fleet might for a time have led him to hope that Napoleon III., with that sympathy for a Royal misfortune bravely met which he so touchingly alludes to in his speech, would have afforded him protection against his former subjects, and have maintained the remnant of Bourbon power with the bayonets of his troops. All this was a mistake, however, not confined to Francis II., since the presence of the French fleet in the waters of Gaeta was a problem the solution of which was not easy to see till the French Emperor himself explains, when the difficulty, of course, ceases at once.

He had, in fact, only intended to give Francis II. an opportunity of leaving quietly; but upon his refusing to abandon a hopeless cause, which, however nobly defended, could only result in dismay, the French fleet was recalled, that the suspicions of intervention already prevalent might not be augmented.

The Emperor himself disarms criticism by adding to his explanation the reminder that it is difficult to believe in unselfish motives in matters of national policy. So there stays the late King of Naples shut up in the fortress of Gaeta in the company of his troops and such foreign representatives as are either afraid to venture out of the stronghold or are sufficiently courageous to stay there.

The accounts which reach us day by day represent that there is but slack firing on both sides; but there must come an end to the



THE SIEGE WORKS BEFORE GAETA—FROM THE PIEDMONTESE MORTAR BATTERY.



state of suspense, and the Piedmontese troops are probably only waiting for the completion of some final arrangements before storming the place. Already the advanced batteries have sadly demolished the town of Gaeta, and everybody dwelling there must lead a dangerous and miserable life from the execution done upon their houses by the mortars thrown into their midst. Indeed, the citizens seem to get more of it than the troops, and fires of frequent occurrence, which, although they are soon extinguished, must have a very devastating effect.

One of the last batteries erected at Gaeta has been named Philhæthal, in order to flatter the German troops, and a very great weight of metal is still displayed in the defence of the fortress. Our Engraving represents the new Piedmontese Battery, which has carried such destruction into the very heart of Gaeta.

It is stated that a French corvette, the *Solon*, touched at Gaeta on her way to Messina and delivered a letter to Francis II. from the Emperor of the French. The reply to this letter has arrived at Paris.

Francis II. replies to the Emperor Napoleon that he is determined to defend the place until the last extremity, and to bury himself, if need be, under the ruins of the fortress. So the bombardment will continue, although the Piedmontese seem half inclined to content themselves with blockading the place by sea and land.

THE LIBERATORS OF SOUTHERN ITALY.

Is the retirement of his island home in Capraia the great General must often think with satisfaction of the work which he has accomplished, and of those brave companions whose faith had never deserted them, whose devotion to the cause they had espoused and the chief whom they followed had never wavered.

Tierr, whose unflinching energy and determined courage bore him onwards, ever ready to dare everything for a principle which he knew to be undying; Bixio, who both in field and council exhibits a courage and a genius the greater from its reliance upon the knowledge of him to whom it had been devoted, whom sickness and wounds, and even subsequent treachery of his enemies, fails to daunt; Medici, of the great name which loses nothing at the hands of its brave and sagacious representative; Sartori, with the poet's face and the patriot's heart; Cosenz, alike sagacious in thought and prompt in action, whether reconnoitring the enemy's batteries in the night off the coast of Messina, or landing his brigade and fighting his way onwards to meet his general midway in the victory—these of all his countrymen have been the friends and followers of the Italian liberator, the man of simple and heroic soul, who has outdone all the traditions of ancient history, and brought within modern observation the purity and simplicity of classic heroes.

It would have been well-nigh impossible that England, all of whose sympathies are on the side of national liberty, should have held aloof from a cause where not only her influence but her popular affections were enlisted; and the result has been that amongst the followers of Garibaldi Englishmen have held a place scarcely less devoted and equally steadfast. Peard—the man whose name had already circulated through Europe as the foe of the Austrian troops—joined his General in the great national struggle for independence; while Dunne and Dowling, inspired by kindred sentiments, brought not only personal achievement, but unconquerable energy and military knowledge, to aid the cause they had embraced. And there were others who, although holding a less prominent military position, were fitting representatives of our country in the greatest event of modern times.

Even while preparing for the work which may yet remain for him to do, General Garibaldi may well feel a generous elation when he remembers the unflinching fidelity of such men as those who followed him in his brilliant and marvellous revolution.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 146.

HERE WE ARE AGAIN!

THE Queen's Speech has been delivered. The Session has commenced. We again resume our pen. We began these articles on "The Inner Life of the House of Commons" in 1855, and have continued them whilst Parliament was sitting without interruption. Our object was not to report the speeches nor to criticise political movements. The gentlemen in the gallery are reporters; the gentlemen below are political partisans—Liberals, Conservatives, Liberal Conservatives, Radicals, High Churchmen, Low Churchmen, Roman Catholics, Dissenters, &c. We are neither. Our object is merely to sketch, to hold the mirror up to nature, to fix the reflection upon the glass, and then to turn it to our readers. And we hope we have in some measure succeeded. Generally our place is in the House, but when subjects fail us there we wander into the lobby, we peep through the glass door of the smokers, we slide into the refreshment-room, we loiter in the library; in short, we are at times everywhere, and in every place where members "most do congregate," to note their doings and catch their sayings, and generally to gather materials for our weekly sketch. Have we attained our object? Have we succeeded in interesting our readers? In some humble measure we think we have; and now, with the hope of sustaining the interest, and increasing it, we take up our old position and resume our task again.

THE MATERIAL CHANGES IN AND ABOUT THE HOUSE.

There are not many of these. Big Ben, who still hangs aloft in his place, is dumb as ever, and is likely to be so from all we hear; for, between ourselves, when he did give tongue the noise was so distressing to Mr. Speaker, the Serjeant-at-Arms, the Clericus Dom. Com., the Assistant Serjeant, not to mention other officials of lower grade who dwell in and about the Speaker's Court, that the unfortunate bell has been voted a bore, and we may rely upon it that there will be no zeal manifested to evoke his harsh and discordant roar again. But why do not the quarter-bells strike? They are comparatively soft and musical. We cannot tell; perhaps Mr. Denison can. Victoria Tower remains as it was, still unfinished. The contractors seem to be imitating that infinite slowness which philosophers so much admire in Nature. One thing we are glad specially to note in the neighbourhood—to wit, Westminster Palace Hotel is finished and opened. This hotel will be a great accommodation to the members, and all who have Parliamentary business. It was, in truth, the very thing that was wanted. We have known members who live in the suburbs positively distressed for bed when they have been kept in town by a late division. We augur a splendid success to this speculation; many of the members will, no doubt, take lodgings there; some, indeed, have done so already. Again, we are pleased to see that M. Czeremey, with his pots, and pails, and brushes, and ladders, has departed, for we have no faith in that costly silicate wash of his. Can anybody tell us who M. Czeremey is? where he came from? what guarantee the Commissioner of Works had that his costly process would be a success, before so many thousands of pounds were expended in disfiguring the inner courts? and why this gentleman was preferred to our countryman Mr. Ransome, who, it is well known, has studied the subject of protecting stone for many years? The stone was chosen because it is of a beautiful yellowish tint; but M. Czeremey's delicate wash destroys all that. In fact, the inner courts upon which he has operated, look now as if they had been badly whitewashed. Inside there are no material changes—no new frescoes, no new statues. The coat of paint with which Sir Benjamin Hall covered all the interior stonework looks still more like London mud; and the frescoes up stairs get a trifle dimmer from year to year, and evidently mean in time to vanish altogether. These were experiments. The more modern paintings are upon slate, and show no disposition to fade that we can see.

CHANGES AMONGST THE MEMBERS.

And now let us look down upon the House (not the building, but the body corporate so called), and note the changes that we have observed or shall observe there. Old General Wyndham we shall see no more—we do not say hear; for the gallant old Peninsula and Waterloo man, the hero of a score of battles, though he could fight, could not make a speech. He is gone whence he will never more return. His nephew, the Hon. Percy Wyndham, succeeds him as M.P. for West Cumberland. Colonel Herbert will not criticise the Army Estimates again; at least, not at present, for he has taken the office of Inspector of Cavalry, and is succeeded as member for Ludlow by the Hon. George Windsor Clive, one of the Powis family. Nor shall we again see the tall, manly form of Joseph Locke, for he also has gone behind the "dark curtain" since we broke up; and Mr. Moffat, an old member, has taken his place for Honiton. Mr. Ingram, too, alas! is no more. Less than six months ago we shook him by the hand, and wished him godspeed and a safe return, and now, *Eheu!* His successor is Mr. John Wingfield Malcolm, a Conservative—so the Boston men decreed. Mr. Francis Pigott, the member for Reading, has been, by favour of the Government, transmuted into "Governor of the Isle of Man," and is succeeded by Serjeant Pigott, his brother, who will be an addition to the talking power of the House, if no more. Mr. Laing is a real loss to the House, but let us hope that he will be a gain to India. In his stead the Wick boroughs have sent us our old friend Lord Bury, who will speedily get a place, if he minds his P's and Q's. Mr. George Ridley, the member for Newcastle, has already got one—and a snug one it is, too: a commissionership worth £1200 a year, and not a vast deal to do. Young Archibald Beaumont takes his place. Mr. Beaumont is brother of the member for South Northumberland. Plenty of money have the Beaumonts, if nothing else. And now we have to record the departure of Sir Charles Napier on his long journey. Active, energetic, busy, from his boyhood to his seventy-sixth year, "the weary wheels of life stood still at last," and we shall never see his burly form again. Tough-lunged and prosy, and, in truth, a great bore, was the old Admiral; but he was a favourite in the House, and most of the members—all, perhaps, excepting the Government men—will be disposed to say, "We better could have spared a better man." Mr. Austin Layard has been sent by Southwark to fill the old Admiral's place—a man equally tough of lung, though not prosy, for Mr. Layard is one of your energetic speakers; but it may be doubted, unless Mr. Layard shall prove that he has learned wisdom by experience, whether we have changed for the better. Mr. Layard might be a very useful man in the House if he would but be careful. His great fault is incorrectness. Lord Newark is now Earl Manvers, and is succeeded as member for South Nottinghamshire by Lord Stanhope. The Earl of March, late M.P. for West Sussex, is now Duke of Richmond, and is succeeded by Mr. Walter Barttelot Barttelot, who must be a good man if he worthily fills the place of the noble Earl. Old Mr. Warre, the member for Ripon, has succumbed to old age, and Ripon has sent us Mr. Reginald Arthur Vyner, a kinsman of Earl De Grey and Ripon. Lord Emlin is changed to Earl Cawdor since the last Session, and the vacancy for Pembrokehire has been filled by Mr. Phillips; but who he is we know not. Mr. Dunn, of Dartmouth, died of sunstroke in the Red Sea, and Mr. Hardy (brother to the late Conservative Under-Secretary for the Home Department) comes in his stead. These are all the changes recorded at the Crown Offices; but there will be others, for Dr. Noble, of Leicester, is dead; Mr. Sidney Herbert has gone to the Peers, and South Wilts is vacant; and Mr. Deasy, the Irish Attorney-General, is Judge Deasy, and vacates, of course, his seat for the county of Cork. Mr. Deasy will be missed by the Government, for he is an able lawyer and a very effective speaker, albeit he was too passionate, at times, for a Government official. Nor shall we see the tall figure and patriarchal beard of Mr. Titus Salt, of Saltaire, again; for, feeling that the labours of the House press upon his health, he wisely determines to retire. Mr. Salt has never spoken in the House, nor was he ever likely to do so, for though he is a man of great energy, and carries on a most gigantic business—a business which, one would think, requires pluck and nerve, and coolness which would enable him to do anything—he is, nevertheless, so shy and apparently nervous that if he were to try to address the House it is probable that the attempt would take his breath away. Mr. Salt is one of the millionaires of the House—a very Rothschild for wealth, it is said, and all got out of alpaca. Mr. Crook, of Bolton, is to leave us also. Pressure of business is his excuse.

THE MORNING SITTING.

It was about 1.30 when Mr. Speaker entered the House in his State robes trimmed with gold lace, preceded by the Serjeant-at-Arms. Usually the Serjeant on these State occasions wears a chocolate-coloured coat, with embroidered silk waistcoat; but the Court is in mourning, and, he being an officer of State, "the Queen's Serjeant-at-Arms" was dressed in black. He had on, however, the chain of his order, and was altogether much more splendidly arrayed than usual. For a time it appeared as though her Majesty's Government would not be represented at the bar of the Lords by a single member, but, at a few minutes before the arrival of Black Rod, Lord Palmerston swiftly strode across the lobby, entered the House, and took his seat on the Ministerial bench. We have watched the noble Lord for many years at the opening of Parliament, expecting to see some of the signs of age or decay, but have watched in vain; and never did we see him walk with swifter, firmer step, or with a more resolute swing of his arms, than he did on Tuesday last; and in answer to the numerous questions during the colloquy about his health we are happy to learn that the answer uniformly was, "Never better in my life." At two o'clock, or a few minutes afterwards, the Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod (Colonel Clifford), in his blue and gold uniform, approached, and summoned her Majesty's faithful Commons to her Majesty's presence, and then the common scene occurred. Mr. Speaker, preceded by the usual officers, and Lord Palmerston, heading a tumultuous crowd of members, pushing, struggling, crowding, and every moment threatening to override Mr. Speaker and dash the cortège into confusion, proceeded to the Upper House. Formerly the members used to ballot for precedence in the procession, and I am not sure that the form is not gone through now; but, if so, the form is a mere form, for as soon as Mr. Speaker leaves the House the members dash after him, helter-skelter, utterly regardless of all order, like a pack of harriers, and, in the end, the strongest get first. Some day we may expect a serious accident in the scuffle, and afterwards more order will be preserved. On one occasion the trainbearer's sword was smashed; on another poor old Mr. Pulman, the late Yeoman Usher, was upset; and last Tuesday a new member, being lame in his feet, was well-nigh pitched head foremost, and only escaped by being whirled out of the press. We shall not, however, have a reform until something more serious occurs.

EVENING.

In the evening the Government was present in all its strength. Of the Premier's appearance we have already spoken. Gladstone, we report, is hearty—better, we should say, than he was last Session, when, it will be remembered, he was suffering from bronchial affection. Standing in the lobby, we had an opportunity of perusing the remarkable face of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. We are often puzzled, when studying the physiognomy of some of our eminent men, to discover indications of their power; but here is no room for question. The forehead is not specially remarkable, but the countenance, generally, is radiant with intellect. It is a face once seen never to be forgotten—indicating, as we venture to think, far more power behind than has yet been developed. Whilst steadfastly gazing at it you seem to be looking into unknown depths. But we pass on. Sir Charles Wood is spry, lithe, and supple, as usual; swinging into the House apparently as joyous and jaunty as ever. The Government of India is a vast weight to have upon

one's shoulders; but he does not seem to feel it a burden. Lord John Russell positively gets younger in appearance, and yet he is in his sixty-ninth year, and has been in Parliament, on and off, forty-eight years. The Russells are not generally supposed to have strong constitutions. Lord John's brother, George William, died early; the Duke has always been an ailing man, and is now very unwell; and Lord John himself suffered much from dyspepsia in early life, but now he seems to have shaken off his ailments, and promises well for years of activity and a green old age beyond. Sir George Grey shows no change; Sir Cornwall Lewis ditto; and, generally, we have to report that her Majesty's Government seem to be in good trim, and well up to their work. Disraeli's is not a face that will ever show much change. We have known him for many years, and see no difference, except that his hair is thinner, and all his "corkscrew curls" are gone. Sir John Pakington is still the same—smart, compact, and well kept; Lord Stanley, if possible, more stately, thoughtful, and sedate; and the "Knight of Netherby," though he is fond of talking of his age and growing infirmities, shows no signs that he is breaking up. Bright has shown here and elsewhere that he has lost none of his power. You may differ from the hon. member for Birmingham, but all must allow that he is a power in the land. Here, too, we have a remarkable countenance, but it is not like Gladstone's. It lacks the mysterious depth that we note in the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It is probable that all that Bright can do he has done, and this is not a little.

THE BRIGHTON PIER.

Mr. White, of Brighton, has made himself famous, for not only has he moved an amendment to the Address—a thing unheard of in modern times—but he has gone to a division, and has headed a respectable minority in the lobby. Applications were made to him on every hand not to divide; but the "Brighton Pier" (his sobriquet in the House) stood firm amidst the storm. "I will test the sincerity of the noisy Reformers," he said; and he did it. But in truth, readers, this is no real test; for, in the first place, many Reformers refused to vote because they objected to divide on an Address to the Crown; and again, some of those who voted in the minority would not have so voted if there had been a chance of success; for has it not always, with but few exceptions, been proved that the witty definition of a Radical which was given some years ago is a true one—to wit, that "a Radical is one who supports a Whig Government in difficulties." This is a little peep into the real "inner life" of the House, with which we must close our exhibition this week.

Imperial Parliament.

OPENING OF THE SESSION.

THE third Session of the sixth Parliament of the reign of Queen Victoria was opened on Tuesday with all the pomp and ceremony which befits such great occasions. On some of these constitutional anniversaries the interest evinced to be present at the "opening" is apparently as deep as if these Parliamentary festivals were things of rare occurrence. Last year the House was crowded to excess, and many extra benches had to be brought in to accommodate an unusually numerous attendance of Peers. On that same occasion there were fewer people in the streets to view the Royal procession than turn out on the worst day in November to gaze on the municipal splendours of my Lord Mayor. On Tuesday all this was reversed. Seldom have the streets leading to the New Palace been more densely thronged, and seldom has the Queen inaugurated the commencement of a new Session in the presence of a smaller number of Peers. None were admitted to the House of Lords till twelve o'clock, but shortly after that hour nearly all the seats on the Ministerial side of the House were occupied by ladies who by courtesy are supposed on these occasions to be Peersesses. The places reserved for the wives and lady relatives of Peers on the Opposition side were, as usual, filled much more slowly, and were scarcely occupied by the time her Majesty was expected to arrive. Even then, allowing liberally for the prevailing fashion, room might have been found for many more. Not so, however, on the Ministerial side, where the benches were packed with as many as they could contain, and, to judge from appearances, with more than they could accommodate. Eventually, however, the ladies settled themselves down, and amid an endless rustling of brocades and silks, every one, if not accommodated, was at last seated, and the Ministerial benches bloomed out in brilliant colours, like a wide parterre, that seemed quite to overawe and subdue the more sparsely-occupied seats of the fair Opposition. After one o'clock, however, the Peersesses and ladies of the Ambassadors dropped in faster and more fast, till both sides of the House seemed more equally matched in numbers and in splendour. The side galleries, however, were never full; and even the Hindoo Princes, all shawled and bejewelled, whose appearance on these occasions used to be so suggestive of victorious arms and extended dominion—even these magnates, who had come almost to be considered as among the "properties" of the opening—were absent on Tuesday.

The Queen's most Ancient Serjeant was the first dignitary of the sterner sex to put in an appearance. Apparently, however, the prospect of remaining alone with some 400 ladies was too much for Brother Manning, as, after a brief glance round the brilliant House, the learned Serjeant quietly withdrew. Lords Montague and Overstone were the next arrivals, and one or two Peers in their robes unknown to fame just passed the door of the chamber, and then lingered round the throne. It was nearly two o'clock, and still the House seemed almost unaccountably empty. The space reserved for the Corps Diplomatique yawned like a hungry chasm, for only one meek Attaché was stowed away in its remotest corner, and none others seemed coming to take off the cross fire of curious glances brought to bear on him from all sides. Fortunately, before this became too much the Duke of Argyll, with Lord Llanover, Lord Eversley, Lord Lynden, and Lord Calhorne, in their Peers' robes, bared with ermine according to their rank, entered the House, followed almost immediately by Lord Wensleydale, Lord Camperdown, and Lord Belper. The first Ambassador to arrive was the Persian, and the rich, quaint, peculiar costume of this potentate, with his breast covered with jewels, and his features almost concealed under a fur-covered steeple hat, caused quite a "sensation" in the House, which was by no means lessened by this distinguished Oriental's indecision as to where to go. He seemed inclined to solve all doubts on the latter point by moving towards the throne, when Sir Edward Cust came to his assistance, and the space reserved for the diplomatic corps received its first instalment of magnificence. From this time Peers, Judges, and Ambassadors flowed in in gorgeous profusion. Lord Campbell, with the Great Seal carried before him, entered almost simultaneously with the twelve Judges, who at once, as is their wont, sat down and put their heads together, in a little group, discussing, apparently, the most knotty of legal subtleties. The Ministers from America, Sardinia, Greece, Belgium, Bavaria, Sweden, Austria, Portugal, and Russia followed each other in quick succession. The latter, who has only just returned to this Court, having previously represented the Russian Emperor here for many years till the breaking out of the Crimean War, was most warmly welcomed by many Peers in the House and nearly all the members of the Corps Diplomatique. The new French Ambassador, the Count de Flahault, with the Turkish and the Haytian Ministers, made up all the national representatives that were present at the opening on Tuesday.

At two o'clock the shrill sound of the silver trumpets gave warning that her Majesty had entered the palace and proceeded to the robing-room; and with the first sound a quiet, soft-spoken Usher alips along the floor of the House, summoning the ladies on either side to uncover. In an instant, with a great rustle and flutter of

the rising of a flock of birds, lace caps and gorgeous shawls are laid aside, and the fair assembly sits in all the glories of magnificent toilettes, long ordered, long prepared, and shown at last. A rather tedious interval of expectation elapses now, though there is plenty to look at and admire on all sides. During the interval the Duke of Cambridge enters the House, with the Dukes of Rutland, Newcastle, and Argyll, who remain near the throne, while the Bishops of London, Oxford, St. David's, and Lord Dudley take their places on the benches set apart for Lords spiritual and temporal—neither of which, by-the-way, are half full. Except the Dukes of Newcastle and Argyll, no member of the Government is present, and of the leaders of the Opposition not one attends. In the interval between the sounding of the trumpets and the arrival of her Majesty the stock bill "for the better regulation of vestries" is read a first time (never a second) in assertion of the old right claimed, that the Parliament can, when summoned, at once proceed to business, without waiting for the Speech from the Sovereign. Before this quaint old custom is well over the trumpets are heard again, nearer and nearer—the doors on the right of the throne fly open, and the heralds enter, emblazoned with gold, robed about with bullion, as if they feared their magnificence would break loose and escape them altogether. They make a stiff obeisance to the empty throne as they pass, followed by equerries, clerks-marshal, chaffwaxes, yeomen to the right hand, &c., all similarly stiff and gorgeous. Then came Lord Granville, carrying the Sword of State; the Marquis of Winchester, with the Cap of Maintenance; the Duke of Somerset, with the Crown; Lord Campbell, with the Great Seal of England; and then the Queen, before whom the whole House rises, while a murmur of almost affectionate welcome and reverence goes round.

Her Majesty at once proceeded to the throne, Lord Granville standing on her left, the Marquis of Winchester, Duke of Somerset, and the Lord Chancellor on her right. None discharged the office of the late Duke of Norfolk, whose place as Hereditary Earl Marshal is close on the right of her Majesty. The House being seated, at the request of the Queen the Usher of the Black Rod was commanded to summon the attendance of the "faithful Commons," and during the long interval necessary to bring the Third Estate to the bar of the House there is a solemn silence, during which it need scarcely be said all eyes were bent on the Queen. As usual, her Majesty is perfectly at her ease, quietly looking round the splendid chamber as if she sat alone in it, and the surrounding six hundred pair of eyes were bent on any one but her. As always on these great occasions, her Majesty wore robes of State, her dress being composed of silver tissue, striped with gold, and a superb train of crimson velvet, lined with ermine, and embroidered with gold, which was carried by the Ladies in Waiting and two pages. On her head was a demi-crown of brilliants. "The Commons," after a long pause, were at last heard coming up in their usual rather tumultuous manner. The Speaker and Lord Palmerston, of course, led the van, but in the general rush for places no one else was distinguishable. Almost before the Commons had well taken their places, and while they were still whispering "Hush, hush!" her Majesty opened her Speech, and at once read out loudly and distinctly as follows:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

It is with great satisfaction that I meet you again in Parliament and have recourse to your assistance and advice.

My relations with foreign Powers continue to be friendly and satisfactory; and I trust that the moderation of the Powers of Europe will prevent any interruption of the general peace.

Events of great importance are taking place in Italy. Believing that the Italians ought to be left to settle their own affairs, I have not thought it right to exercise any active interference in those matters. Papers on this subject will be laid before you.

I announced to you, at the close of the last Session of Parliament, that the atrocities which had then recently been committed in Syria had induced me to concur with the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the Prince Regent of Prussia, and the Emperor of Russia in entering into an engagement with the Sultan, by which temporary military assistance was to be afforded to the Sultan, for the purpose of establishing order in that part of his dominions.

That assistance has been afforded by a body of French troops, who have been sent to Syria as representing the allied Powers. The Sultan has also placed a considerable military force in Syria under the direction of an able officer; and I trust that tranquillity will soon be re-established in that province, and that the objects of the Convention will have been fully attained.

I announced to you, also, at the close of the last Session of Parliament, that, the pacific overtures which my Envoy in China had made to the Imperial Government at Peking having led to no satisfactory result, my naval and military forces, and those of my ally, the Emperor of the French, were to advance towards the northern provinces of China, for the purpose of supporting the just demands of the allied Powers, and that the Earl of Elgin had been sent to China as Special Ambassador to treat with the Chinese Government.

I am glad to inform you that the operations of the allied forces have been attended with complete success. After the capture of the forts at the mouth of the Peiho, and several engagements with the Chinese army, the allied forces became masters of the Imperial city of Peking; and the Earl of Elgin and Baron Gros, the Ambassador of the Emperor of the French, were enabled to obtain an honourable and satisfactory settlement of all the matters in dispute.

Throughout these operations, and the negotiations which followed them, the Commanders and Ambassadors of the allied Powers acted with the most friendly concert. Papers on this subject will be laid before you.

The state of my Indian territories is progressively improving, and I trust that their financial condition will gradually partake of the general amendment.

An insurrection of a portion of the natives of New Zealand has interrupted the peace of a part of that colony; but I hope that the measures which have been taken will speedily suppress these disturbances, and enable my Government to concert such arrangements as may prevent their recurrence.

Serious differences have arisen among the States of the North American Union. It is impossible for me not to look with great concern upon any events which can affect the happiness and welfare of a people nearly allied to my subjects by descent, and closely connected with them by the most intimate and friendly relations. My heartfelt wish is that these differences may be susceptible of a satisfactory adjustment.

The interest which I take in the well-being of the people of the United States cannot but be increased by the kind and cordial reception given by them to the Prince of Wales during his recent visit to the continent of America.

I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my warm appreciation of the loyalty and attachment to my person and throne manifested by my Canadian and other North American subjects on the occasion of the residence of the Prince of Wales among them.

I have concluded with the Emperor of the French conventions supplementary to the Treaty of Commerce of the 23rd of January, 1860, and in furtherance of the objects of that treaty.

I have also concluded with the King of Sardinia a convention for the reciprocal protection of copyright.

These conventions will be laid before you.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

I have directed the Estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you. They have been framed with a due regard to economy and to the efficiency of the several branches of the public service.

MR. LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Many will be laid before you for the consideration of important parts

of the criminal law; for the improvement of the law of bankruptcy and insolvency; for rendering more easy the transfer of land; for establishing a uniform system of rating in England and Wales; and for several other purposes of public usefulness.

I confidently commit the great interests of my empire to your wisdom and care; and I fervently pray that the blessing of the Almighty may attend your councils, and may guide your deliberations to the attainment of the object of my constant solicitude—the welfare and happiness of my people.

The instant the Speech was concluded, the Royal procession quitted the House in the same order in which it had entered, and the assemblage broke up.

The House resumed at five o'clock, the Lord Chancellor taking his seat on the woolsack.

THE ADDRESS.

Lords SEPTON and LISMORE having respectively moved and seconded the Address.

The Earl of DERBY said, that he found no fault with the general tone of the Speech from the Throne, and that he approved of the measures which the Government had announced their intention to bring in. He was of opinion, however, that some reference might with propriety have been made to, and sympathy expressed with, the distress prevailing in Coventry and its neighbourhood, and some passing notice taken of the financial position of the country. He congratulated the Government upon the termination of the Chinese War, but added that he was not without apprehension that further difficulties would be experienced in dealing with the finances of India. The most serious question for consideration, however, in the existing state of affairs on the Continent was the nature of our relations with the French Government. He wished to know whether or not we were acting with France in those proceedings with which the Emperor had lately astonished Europe, and what were the objects which the Government were seeking to accomplish in Italy. He trusted that peace would be preserved; but it was of no use to blink the fact that peace depended upon the Emperor of the French, and, judging from a recent speech, he was not favourably impressed as to the French Emperor's desire for peace. The danger to the peace of Europe arose from the warlike attitude of France, from her large army, and, above all, her increased and increasing navy. Looking to these great naval preparations, he could not but think that they were directed against a possible rupture with this country. It was of great importance to know our real position in regard to France, and he hoped to receive satisfactory explanations on the subject from her Majesty's Government.

EARL GRANVILLE defended the policy which the Government had adopted on Italian affairs, and challenged a full discussion upon it as soon as the House had had an opportunity of perusing and considering the papers which had been laid upon the table that night. So far as our relations with France were concerned, they were neither those of blind distrust on the one hand, nor of blind confidence on the other; but they were inspired by the sincere desire to maintain most cordial friendship between two great nations whose co-operation might be almost said to ensure the peace and prosperity of the civilised world.

The Address was then agreed to, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ADDRESS.

In the House of Commons the Address was moved by

SIR T. E. COLEBROOKE, who commenced by advertising to that part of her Majesty's Speech which had a personal reference to herself—the allusion to the manner in which the Prince of Wales had been received in the British colonies he had visited, as well as in the United States of America, which he considered an important historical event. He dwelt upon the success which had attended our arms in China, of which, he remarked, many doubts had been entertained by military authorities, and he congratulated the House upon the manner in which the expedition had been fitted out. In touching upon those portions of the Royal Speech which related to the state of the Continent of Europe, he expressed his belief that the Emperor of the French was actuated by a sincere desire for the maintenance of peace. At the same time, Italy was a source of anxiety, and, considering the aspect of foreign affairs in general, he thought that impatience for a reduction of our expenditure should not disable us from preserving an attitude of watchfulness. After a few remarks upon domestic topics, he concluded by moving an Address echoing the Speech from the Throne.

The motion was seconded by MR. PAGER, who confined himself to subjects of home interest, including favourable anticipations of the effects of the Commercial Treaty with France. On the subject of economy in the public expenditure, he declared his conviction that, though the people desired that the money raised by taxation should not be profusely wasted, to reduce the navy and the army below what was necessary for the safety and honour of the country would be as unpopular as impolitic.

MR. WILKINSON, although very reluctant to disturb the unanimity which generally prevailed upon these occasions, there were omissions in the Royal Speech; and he felt bound to move an amendment. Nothing was said about the question as to the respective functions of the two Houses and the abandonment of one of the most precious privileges of the Commons. The Royal Speech was defective in relation to a neighbouring State and to the warlike preparations there; and it made no mention of Administrative or of Parliamentary reform. The hon. gentleman moved as an amendment "That her Majesty's Government should at an early day introduce a measure for the extension of the Parliamentary franchise in the boroughs and counties of the United Kingdom, in fulfilment of the express pledges given by her Majesty's Government when they came into office, and thus adopt a course calculated to increase the loyal devotion of her Majesty's subjects to her Majesty's throne and person, and satisfy the long desires and just expectations of the country."

The amendment was seconded by MR. W. D. SEYMOUR. MR. DISRAELI said he was not displeased at the omission of all reference to Parliamentary Reform, as the encouragement which the Government had received last Session was not of a character calculated to induce them to consider it a duty to solicit the opinion of the House on the subject. There were, however, some subjects in connection with our foreign relations upon which the public mind was much perplexed. Notwithstanding all the candour of the Government in publishing despatches, and disclosing almost every phase of their policy, the result was mystification and bewilderment far greater than that which existed when secret diplomacy was most predominant and prevalent. He wished to know what was the real state of our relations with France—whether we had found new allies, or were attempting to do so; and, if so, what was the principle upon which the alliance was to be formed. He wished also to know whether it was a fact that the King of Sardinia had entered into a public engagement with our Sovereign not to attack the dominions of the King of the Two Sicilies, and whether, having broken that engagement, he had received the meed of approbation of her Majesty's Government. He owned that he had been one of those who had upheld the French alliance, and he saw no reason to regret having expressed his views on that subject. It seemed to him that there was not that cordiality towards France which her Majesty's gracious Speech would lead them to suppose. At all events, they knew that the noble Lord at the head of the Foreign Office had not, on his accession to power, followed that policy which the Government of France considered the most acceptable. Neither had he succeeded in establishing a united Italy, because Rome was still garrisoned by the Gaul. Revolution was rife in many provinces, Venice was bristling with Austrian artillery, and, although the King of the Two Sicilies had lost his crown by the unanimous vote of his people, he was still in possession of the two strongest fortresses in his kingdom. He feared that we were about to force the Emperor of the French to a policy in Italy which he did not wish to follow, but which, if he did follow, would place him at the head of a million of disciplined soldiers. If we had assisted Italy in a material sense we might have established a claim upon her gratitude as an ally, and a united Italy would have been a brilliant ornament to Europe; but, instead of assisting her, we had adopted a puerile and declamatory policy under the name of "moral support."

LORD J. RUSSELL observed that the leader of the Opposition might have refrained from attacking the Government until he had perused the papers which had been laid upon the table of the House that evening. He reminded Mr. Disraeli that his present sympathy for the cause of Italy was somewhat inconsistent with the opinion so often expressed by himself and by his political friends, to the effect that a united Italy was a visionary notion—that the Italians were never better governed than by the Austrians—and that if there was any King worthy of admiration it was the late King of Naples. In dealing with the Italian question the Government had kept three objects steadily in view. One was that Italy should be free to settle her own concerns; the second was that after the peace of Villafranca the treaty should be maintained as a security for the peace of Europe; and the third, that Sardinia should not rush madly and blindly into war. Having defended his policy in relation to the French treaty, and declared that the two countries were on terms of the most satisfactory nature, the noble Lord expressed his hope and belief that the peace of Europe might be preserved. With regard to the amendment, and the subject of Reform, he thought it was better for the Government not to bring forward a measure which, at the present time, must create disappointment, and occupy a great deal of time without leading to any satisfactory result. Upon this question he always dreaded what persons would do by way of compromise. He had come to the opinion that, in order to carry a Reform Bill which would be of use to the country, there must be such an amount of public opinion in its favour as would carry it through that House and the House of Lords. The country, however, had the matter in its own hands,

and might declare that nothing would satisfy it but Parliamentary Reform. The Government were of opinion that their best course would be to give their attention to the various subjects indicated in her Majesty's Speech.

MR. BRIDGES, in commenting upon the Address, applied himself exclusively to the question of Reform by the Cabinet, and said that the humiliating position of Lord John Russell in reference to it reminded him of the bankrupt trader who, having carried on business for many years on fictitious credit, at length called his creditors together, glad of any opportunity or means to get rid of his obligations. It was not many years ago since the noble Lord had shed bitter tears on the very subject which he had treated that evening with indecorous jocularity. This great question might be treated with indifference, pledges might be broken, but a time would come when no Government, hoping to enjoy the confidence of the people, could ignore their claim to a large measure of Parliamentary Reform.

On a division the amendment was negatived by 129 to 46. The Address was then agreed to, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ADDRESS.

SIR E. COLEBROOKE brought up the Report upon the Address to her Majesty.

INDIAN FINANCE.

MR. CRAWFORD asked whether the necessity for raising a loan of £3,000,000 in London for the service of the Government of India was owing to circumstances connected only with railway receipts and expenditure; or whether it arose from the falling off of the available sources of income or increase of expenditure in India?

SIR C. WOOD said the payments made by railways this year amounted to about £7,000,000, of which £2,500,000 would be applicable to the expenses of the Home Government; but, owing to the increase of expenditure in India on the railways, and to the railway companies not having paid in the whole amount due from them, it was necessary for him to exercise the power he took last year to raise a loan for the purposes of the Home Government. The matter was altogether connected with the railway expenditure; but there would be no necessity to borrow for the purposes of the Government in India, a reduction of nearly £7,000,000 in expenditure having taken place in the last two years, while it was expected that next year the income and expenditure would be nearly balanced.

FRAUDULENT TRADE-MARKS.

In answer to MR. ROEBUCK, MR. M. GIBSON said a bill was prepared to amend the law relating to the use of fraudulent trade-marks.

OUR FOREIGN POLICY.

MR. S. FITZGERALD, in reference to foreign affairs, drew attention to the despatches of Lord J. Russell of Aug. 31 and of Oct. 27 to the Sardinian Government, which, he contended, were totally inconsistent with the principles of non-intervention which the noble Lord so loudly professed. Such a course, he urged, pursued on the part of an English Liberal Government was calculated to impede the progress of the constitutional cause in Europe, and to encourage the hopes of those who desired the establishment of revolutionary principles. The hon. gentleman pressed for information with regard to the state of the relations between this country and France. He asked if there was any project of ceding Liguria and the Island of Sardinia to France in case of assistance given by France to Victor Emmanuel? He also wished to know when the occupation of Syria by French troops was to cease?

LORD J. RUSSELL replied that his despatch of October had been misconstrued by Mr. Fitzgerald. It was absurd to lay down a general rule applicable to all cases, and to place the resistance of peoples to their Sovereigns in one and the same category. Every case must be judged by its own merits. Instances had occurred, as in Greece and Belgium—cases less flagrant than that of Italy—in which the interference of foreign Powers had taken place and been justified. He read and defended the despatch of October, and, after detailing some of the many provocations to resistance given to the people of the Two Sicilies, he thought it not surprising that they should prefer to be under the sway of a Sovereign who, whatever his fault, had always been true to his people; and that the King of Sardinia was justified in going to their assistance. As regarded the French occupation of Syria, which was begun with the consent of Europe, it would cease at the same instance and with the same consent, and the matter could be settled by a conference. As to our general relations with France, we had no ambitious views, and he trusted that the Emperor of the French would dispense the councils of those who said that the interests of France could be promoted by wars of ambition; on the contrary, she could not better consult her interests than by the maintenance of peace. He did not share the apprehensions of those who thought we were on the eve of great convulsions.

The report was then agreed to, and, after some further business, the House adjourned.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

Both Houses met to-day, at two o'clock, for the purpose of presenting the Addresses to her Majesty, at Buckingham Palace, agreed to at the opening of Parliament.

There was no sitting of the House of Lords this evening.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House reassembled at five o'clock.

THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

THE SPEAKER reported to the House that the Address had been presented to her Majesty, who was graciously pleased to return the following answer:—

"Your loyal and dutiful Address affords me much satisfaction, and I rely with confidence on your careful consideration of the bills relating to the amendment of the law to be laid before you, and other important measures."

Several private bills were read a first time.

TRANSFER OF SEATS.

LORD ENFIELD gave notice that on Friday week he would move for leave to bring in a bill to transfer the seats of St. Albans and St. Albans to the parish of St. Luke, Chelsea.

BULLION.

On the motion of MR. HANKEY, the following was ordered:—Return of bullion purchased and sold by the Bank of England, distinguishing gold from silver, and bar gold from foreign gold coin, in each month, from the 31st of December, 1859, to the 31st of December, 1860; also the cases of payments to, or of receipts from, the public of British gold coin; and also the amount received from the Mint during the same period (in continuation of Parliamentary paper No. 86 of Session 1860).

REDUCTION IN THE DOCKYARDS.

In reply to SIR F. SMITH, LORD C. PAGET said that no reduction to any extent had yet taken place in the dockyards; but it was in contemplation to reduce a certain number of men employed next month. Such reduction was in consequence of the substitution of iron for wooden ships-of-war.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The Royal Speech was considered, and the usual order for Supply was agreed to.

BANK OF ENGLAND (CONSOLIDATED FUND) ACT.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the following resolutions:—1. To charge upon the Consolidated Fund in gross the sums payable to the Bank of England on account of the management of the National Debt. 2. To charge upon the Consolidated Fund the deficiency, if any such should arise, in the sums which may be held on account of Post Office savings banks to meet the lawful demands of depositors in such banks in the event of their being established by law.

The Committee agreed to the first resolution, but the second, being infra vi, was deferred.

PAROCHIAL ASSESSMENTS.

SIR G. C. LEWIS obtained leave to introduce a bill for the purpose of amending the law relating to parochial assessments in England. The main object of the measure was to establish local boards, so as to secure a uniform system of assessment and collection. He did not, however, propose to interfere with the present mode of rating.

HIGHWAYS.

SIR G. C. LEWIS also obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better management of highways in England.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

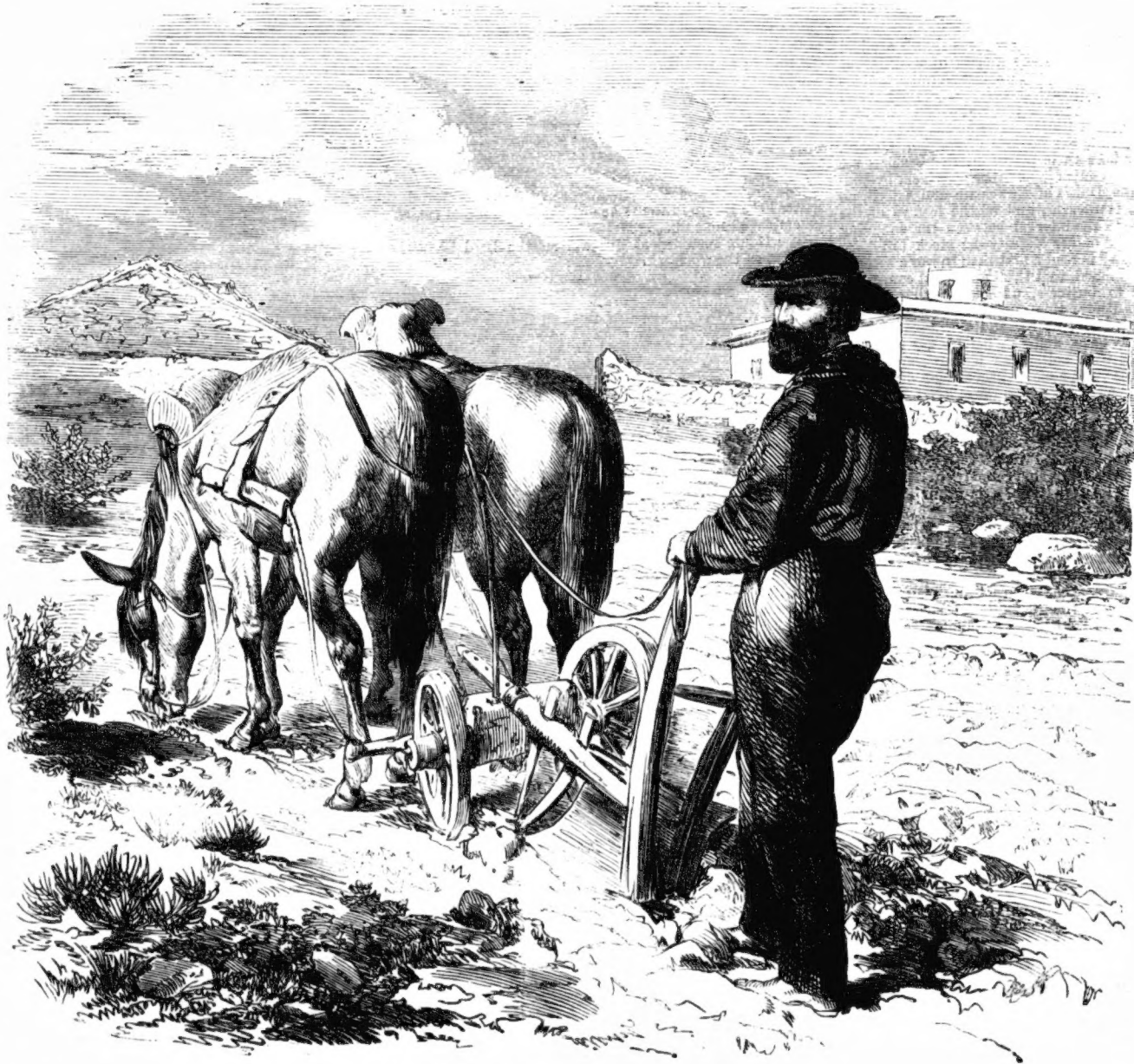
LORD PALMERSTON moved for a Select Committee to consider whether by any alterations in the forms and proceedings of this House the dispatch of public business can be more effectually promoted. The noble Viscount said he thought that some of the forms of the House might be dispensed with without any injury to the public interests, but with great advantage to public business. One question which he thought the Committee ought to consider was whether a bill introduced one Session and dropped on account of the advanced period of the year should not be allowed to be reintroduced in the succeeding Session at the stage at which it was dropped; another was whether, after Easter, it was not desirable to grant an extra day to the Government for public business. It would be also well for the Committee to consider whether some advantage might not be derived by adopting the system of bringing forward questions on various subjects upon motions of adjournment and supply.

CHECK RATES.

SIR J. TALLANTYRE obtained leave to bring in a bill to abolish check rates. Adjourned.

GARIBALDI AT
CAPRERA.

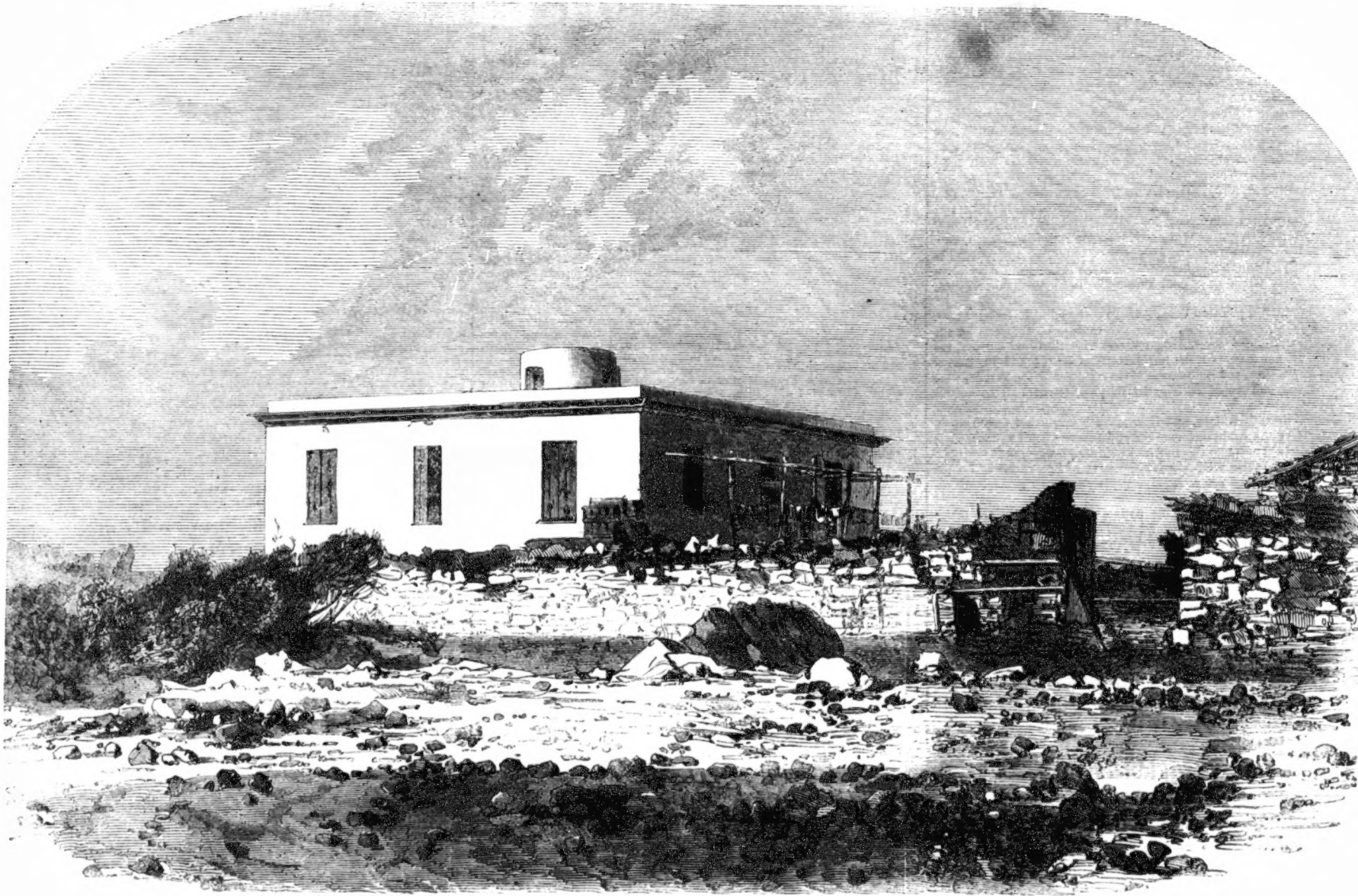
A FEW months ago a paragraph appeared in the public papers stating that King Victor Emmanuel had prepared an agreeable surprise for Garibaldi in his retirement, by fitting up for the General an elegant villa at Caprera. This "elegant villa" has, however, no existence, save in the imagination of the writer of the paragraph in question. It is, in reality, neither more nor less than the simple habitation erected on the General's little estate, and of which our illustration affords an accurate representation. A ground floor, containing nine rooms, comprises the principal portion of the house. On the right of the entrance-hall (which, by-the-way, is used as a dining-room) is Garibaldi's chamber. It is damp and inconveniently situated; but, in spite of these disadvantages, no one can persuade him to remove to another apartment. The furniture consists of a wooden bedstead, with two mattresses, a rickety table covered with a green cloth, and a very old armchair. Two trunks contain a miscellaneous collection of linen, consisting of shirts, tablecloths, napkins, and hand-towels, tumbled up in disorder, together with flags, riddled with bullet-holes, the tattered memorials of the General's campaigns. On a few shelves are ranged a small collection of books, chiefly on historical and military subjects. The chief ornament of this room is a portrait of Garibaldi's daughter, painted when she was about four years of age. At the head of the General's bed hangs a



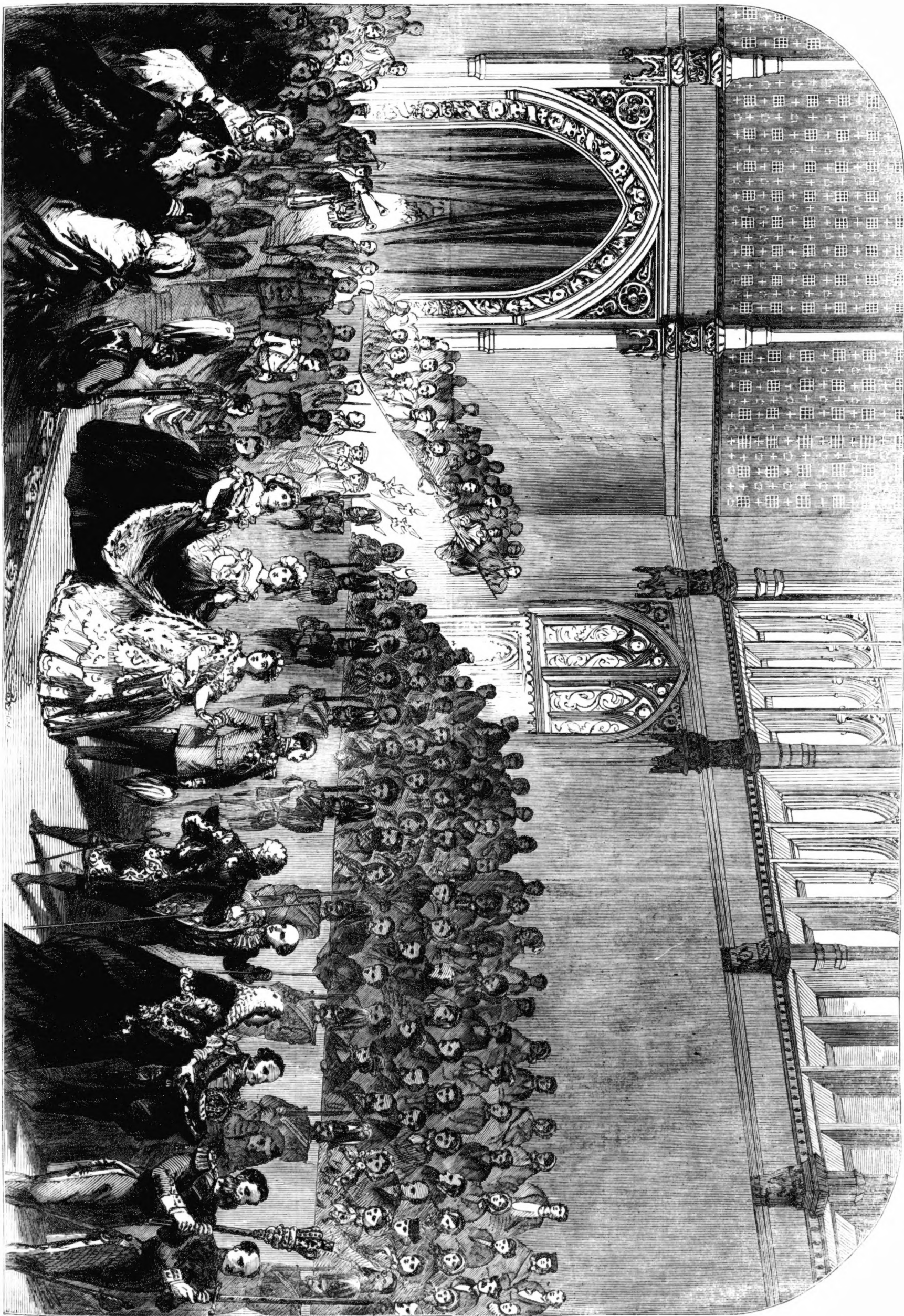
GARIBALDI AT WORK ON HIS FARM AT CAPRERA.

medallion frame, containing the hair of Garibaldi's wife Anita, and of his mother. An old rusty nail, also at the head of the bed, serves the twofold purpose of hanging the portrait of Vecchi and Garibaldi's watch. Near the window there hangs a looking-glass, once a part of the household furniture of the General's mother. On the left of the entrance-hall are the bedchambers of Garibaldi's friends. These rooms contain iron bedsteads, and are poorly furnished. Behind them are the apartments allotted to the superintendent of the farm and his family, the kitchen, and other offices. At the back of the house there is a room without windows, in which beans and potatoes are stored. The supply of live stock is very meagre: it consists merely of one bull, eight cows with their calves, five asses, and two horses.

His son, Menotti, together with Fruscianti, Guzmanoli, Basso, and other friends of Garibaldi, assists the General in his agricultural labours, and are his companions in the sports of fishing and hunting. In the evening all the inmates of the house assemble round the family dinner-table, where the simple meal is seasoned by pleasant conversation, and the company listen to the singing of Garibaldi's daughter, who has a sweet voice, and plays charmingly on an excellent piano, the only object of luxury the humble habitation contains. Even at Caprera sympathetic England has its representative—an English lady having settled in the immediate vicinity of Garibaldi's residence.



VIEW OF GARIBALDI'S HOUSE AT CAPRERA.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)



OPENING OF PARLIAMENT - THE ROYAL PROCESSION TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1861.

THE DEBATE ON THE ADDRESS.

THE Speech read by her Majesty in the House of Lords on Tuesday is a composition of no weight and of no interest, though we may wonder at the courage which, writing a speech for a Queen, deals with subjects of national importance in the abrupt and jaunty language so remarkable in the harangues of a conjuror. To him, as he sits crosslegged on his bit of carpet, whirling half a dozen knives about his head, such a style of language is proper enough, and appropriate to the matter in hand; but we are of opinion that for this very reason it should not be put into the mouth of the Queen.

However, the debate which in the House of Commons followed the delivery of the Speech was interesting enough, and, to our minds, satisfactory. In the first place, Mr. Disraeli once more justified the theory of government by parties by gauding out into view the foreign policy of the Cabinet. The hon. member for Bucks said, very truly, that the country (though disposed, no doubt, to confide generally in Lord Palmerston's foreign policy) had got very much in the dark about it at the present most critical juncture, and desired to be enlightened. The chief questions raised were, as to the Italian policy of the Government, and our present relations with France, with especial regard to Italy. It is obvious that the latter is a question not easily answered in a public assembly, with a crowd of press reporters in one gallery of the House and a "special correspondent" of the Emperor in another; but we have no reason this time to mark Lord John Russell's reply as either vague or rash—as meaning too little or expressing too much. He declares that there is no disunion between the Courts of France and England on any great question (the Syrian occupation being a small one, we suppose); and that, as regards Italy especially, the Emperor and the Queen are equally resolved on a policy of non-intervention. The former Potentate has declared his strong disapproval of any attempt on the part of Sardinia to break the Treaty of Zurich and attack Venetia. Considering this declaration, the noble Lord believes the Emperor has no intention of marching an army into Italy with the view of aiding the Italians in that attempt. Lord John adds, however, that, "if a war were made, it is impossible to say at this moment what part France might take as new events arose." Therefore, "while on a main point of policy we are entirely agreed with the Emperor of the French, we are, at the same time, in close alliance and intimacy with the other great Powers in Europe; and if there were any other question on which it should appear to us that France was in the wrong, or was acting in that spirit of encroachment which has sometimes actuated a great military nation, then we should form an alliance with them to combat her designs."

Accepting this as an explanation of them, it appears to us that, so far, our position and our policy are sound, considering the awkward circumstances of the time; and Lord John's exposition of the Ministerial views about Italy is satisfactory too. Lord John would prefer two constitutional kingdoms in Italy; but, two or one, it will satisfy him if the question is settled by the Italians themselves. At the same time he desires that the Peace of Villafranca should be maintained, as a security for the repose of Europe. He is evidently not disposed to deny that the King of Sardinia violated the law of nations in invading Naples, but then he does not see what else his Majesty could do under the circumstances; and when, at this juncture, "Russia, Prussia, Austria, and France were doing all in their power, as far as their moral influence would extend, to extinguish the freedom and independence of the new Italian State," the moral influence of England was thrown into the opposite scale. Should a war break out after all, England will take no part in it; though, indeed, "in the course of that war events might take place which would so seriously menace the independence of nations in which we take the deepest interest that we should hardly be able to keep free from its complications and dangers." On the whole, this is a candid and straightforward explanation, and one which will satisfy the country, we think. It is rather curious, by-the-by, that the Holstein difficulty was never alluded to in the debates on the Address in either House.

But while no observation in the Queen's Speech was so remarkable as the absence of all allusion to Reform, so Lord John Russell's declarations on that subject surpass in interest his utterances as Minister for Foreign Affairs. It was not to be supposed; because Reform was dropped out of the Royal Speech, that it would be allowed to sink altogether. Mr. White, whom we must henceforth recognise as a Radical leader, we

suppose, took up the question, and moved an amendment to the Address. In reply Lord John opened his mind in a manner so prodigious as to overwhelm the Radical party with "grief and indignation." So far from apologising for the absence of a Reform Bill from the Ministerial programme, so far from raising up a bow of promise between the tears of regret and the beams of hope, Lord John roundly declared that, as the people were totally indifferent to Reform, the Government intended to abandon it. So dead was the country to the subject, indeed, that he doubted whether the Government would be justified in consuming the time of the House with a new measure. Lord John even indulged a humour, which must appear most ghastly in certain circles, as he showed how hollow had been the cry for Reform amongst the Liberal members themselves, and how little their constituencies cared whether they voted for Reform or not. "However," said the noble Lord, "it is not too late for indignation meetings. If nothing will satisfy the country but a Reform Bill which, to use the language of the hon. gentleman (Mr. White), shall satisfy the just expectations of the people demanding it, they have only to insist that the hon. gentleman who moved this amendment shall take the place of the Premier, and he, no doubt, will carry the Reform Bill to their entire satisfaction. Till that is done I shall believe we are in the right, and justly judge the disposition of the people."

This language must have sounded terrible in some ears—and those not the least, perhaps—in the assembly; and we must admit that we share the universal surprise at so very candid a declaration. But the candour pleases us, and we are convinced that the Government is in the right. We do not mean, any more than Lord John Russell himself, that our representative system needs no reform; but it is clearly impolitic to waste Session after Session in sham discussions of constitutional change undesired by the people, and which therefore their representatives cannot be brought to consider with any degree of earnestness. There is the rub. Reform is a difficult and delicate subject, and as long as the people remain apathetic the House of Commons will contrive to elude it. Under such circumstances the annual introduction of Reform Bills can have no effect but to dissipate the time of the House and to encourage political dishonesty.

As for Mr. Bright's prophecy, that by-and-by Reform will be demanded over the barricade, it is a foolish one. A gentleman of so fervid a character as his may not know all the difference between apathy and revolution; but, luckily for the people whom he endeavours to inflame, they have a better sense of their position. They know—and so does Mr. Bright, for that matter—that there is no governing party, no power in the State, opposed to Reform; and therefore there can be no provocation to rebellion. They know that if they wanted Reform they could bring about a settlement of the question with one-fourth of the pressure exerted against the corn laws; and then there was no revolution. In fact, the matter lies entirely between the people and their representatives; and we suppose the reddest Radical in the kingdom may be content to leave it there.

DEATH OF MRS. GORE.

IN the death of Mrs. Gore, which occurred on Tuesday week at Linwood, Lyndhurst, the world of letters has sustained a loss which it will be very difficult indeed to replace. One of the witty and most refined writers of her time, the productions of Mrs. Gore are, to a certain extent, under a cloud at the present moment—the morbid craving for novels of fashionable life which prevailed to a large extent in the middle classes some years since having been succeeded by a real distaste for, or by an affected scorn of, all books referring to the doings of titled personages. Fashionable novels are now paying the penalty of a popularity undeservedly great by having to submit to disfavour as undeservedly indiscriminate; but they will probably recover ground again to a certain extent, and nothing can conduce more to this result than a study of the works which we owe to the gifted lady whose death, at the close of a long and useful life, we have now to deplore.

Mrs. Catherine Frances Gore (we take these facts from a "Dictionary of Contemporary Biography") was born in London in 1800. Her first production, "Theresa Marchmont," was highly successful, and opened out a long and brilliant career for her as a clear, vivid, and imaginative writer. It would be impossible to enumerate in this slight sketch all the productions of Mrs. Gore's pen. She has succeeded most admirably in depicting scenes from daily life in her "Women as they Are," "Mothers and Daughters," "Memoirs of a Peeress," and many similar works. In her "Hungarian Tales" she vividly portrays the habits and customs of Hungary. As a gentle satirist we may name her "Cecil; or, the Adventures of a Coxcomb," "The Woman of the World," "The Popular Member," and "The Sketch-book of Fashion." As a moralist, any of her works may be adduced as an illustration. There are few living writers who have been so successful in acquiring popularity, which may perhaps be owing to the lifelike nature of all Mrs. Gore's novels. In 1823 she was married to Captain Gore, of the 1st Life Guards, and became a widow in 1846. She had been the mother of ten children, of whom two survive—Lady Edward Thynne, married to a son of the second Marquis of Bath; and Augustus Wentworth Gore, A.D.C. to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, who served with distinction on the Staff at Lucknow and in the Rohlund campaign, and was repeatedly commended in despatches. Mrs. Gore had for some time past been blind.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE REV. H. DOUGLAS.—Alderman Thomas Dakin and Mr. George Moore, the two gentlemen to whom the Bishop of London, on the solicitation of the Rev. H. Douglas, intrusted an inquiry into the disposal of the vast amount of money subscribed towards the spiritual and temporal necessities of the district by the Victoria Docks, to the supervision of which Mr. Douglas was appointed three or four years ago by the Bishop, have concluded their labours. At every sitting they were attended by Mr. Evans, a solicitor, who appeared on behalf of Mr. Scully, who made certain charges against the rev. gentleman, and he has had the amplest opportunity of reading all the letters which Mr. Douglas received, and of inspecting the vouchers which were produced for the satisfaction of the commissioners, who have now sent in their report. The sums received by Mr. Douglas, and distributed by him, have amounted to nearly £17,000, and he has been able to account satisfactorily for every farthing of it, with the exception of about £8—an amount which he has no doubt given away in small sums to urgent cases as they have arisen without taking any account of them.

THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY'S FAMILY has sustained a severe bereavement in the death of his Grace's youngest daughter, the wife of the Rev. John Thomas, Rector of Ailthorpe Barking, and I am the chaplain to the Archbishop.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN, it is understood, will hold levees at St. James's Palace on Thursday, the 14th inst.; Wednesday, the 20th inst.; and on Wednesday, the 13th of March next. A drawingroom will be held on the 21st of March.

THE QUEEN has conferred the honour of knighthood upon Colonel Cotton, a gentleman in every respect worthy of the dignity. For many years Colonel Cotton's name has been associated with works of public improvement in India.

M. HENRY MURGER, a poet and dramatist of considerable renown, has just died in France, at the early age of thirty-nine. His most celebrated work was "La Vie de Bohème," a drama which had a wonderful run at the Variétés ten years ago.

THE LADIES OF INDIA, with Lady Ganning at the head of their committee, purpose to erect a monument over the well at Cawnpore. Mr. Scott, R.A., has made designs for this work.

THE HON. J. H. CAMERON, who is a member of the Canadian Legislature and a grand master of the Orange body in British America, is in the north of Ireland, and was welcomed to Belfast last week at a dinner and public meeting of the "brethren" in the Orange Hall of that town.

THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL has granted an extension of the patent for Hoe's newspaper printing-machine for five years.

THE AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNTS from all parts of the United Kingdom have become much more encouraging, owing to the recent frost having been followed by dry weather.

NOTICE has been given at the British galleries of the National Gallery at South Kensington that henceforth no copy is to be made of any picture, the painter of which is living, without his written consent.

CERTAIN IMPORTANT CHANGES in the organisation of the departments of the War Office have been submitted for the approval of the Treasury by Lord Herbert. Among the principal suggestions, it is said, will be one constituting a Director of Ordnance.

AN OUT-PENSION OF GREENWICH HOSPITAL for a Lieutenant has fallen vacant by the death of Lieutenant John Green (1859).

THE ROYAL CHARTER incorporating the Commissioners of the Great Exhibition of 1862 has been signed by her Majesty.

THE LIVERPOOL NATURALISTS are preparing an anniversary festival, to be held in St. George's Hall in April of this year.

THE UNDERWRITERS have raised the premium 1 per cent on cargoes from the southern ports of the United States, in order to cover the war risk and other contingencies.

IT IS PROPOSED to employ females in the General Post Office.

NEGOTIATIONS are pending for the reduction of the postage on letters between France and England to twopenny.

THE GOVERNMENT is said to contemplate increasing the number of our consular agents abroad, and to commence with establishing one at Pesth.

THE LONDON SCOTTISH RIFLES have been squabbling about the selection of officers by Lord Elcho, who, however, appears to have acted very judiciously.

SOME MEN were engaged on a travelling-crane at Sheerness Dockyard, shifting a boiler twenty-eight tons weight from one part of the workshops to another part, when the "traveller" broke, precipitating three men from a height of forty feet, and smashing them in a dreadful manner.

THE FIFTH DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE of the season took place at Windsor Castle on Thursday week. "The Contested Election" was played by the members of the Haymarket company.

A NEW RANK IN THE NAVY is proposed—namely, that of Sub-Lieutenant—in lieu of that of Mate, which will be abolished, as being a little too much akin to the merchant service.

A CHILD at TIVIDALE has met with a singular death. A man named Boulton was attempting to kiss the girl nursing the child, and in resisting she let fall a toasting-fork, which penetrated the infant's forehead.

THE EARL OF LINCOLN, eldest son of the Duke of Newcastle, is about to be married to the daughter of Mr. Henry Thomas Hooper, of Deepdene. The bride will have a princely dowry.

MR. DANIEL O'CONNELL has written to the *Kerry Evening Post* announcing that he has not the slightest intention of resigning the representation of Tralee, as lately rumoured.

THE ABBE LACORDAIRE was presented to the Emperor at the Tuileries, on Sunday, by M.M. Guizot, Villmain, and Laprade.

THE NUMBER OF NORWEGIAN EMIGRANTS (says a letter from Christiania) who took up their residence in Canada last year was 1751. As the Norwegians are for the most part skilful fishermen, and as fish is abundant on the Canadian coasts, their arrival in the colony was hailed with pleasure.

OUT OF EVERY THOUSAND INFANTS BORN IN SUNDERLAND, 500 die before they grow out of infancy. At Newcastle the infant mortality is not much less (440 per 1000); while in Halifax, Bradford, Derby, and Birkenhead it falls to 176 per 1000.

BARON BRUNNOW had an audience of the Queen on Monday, and presented his credentials as Ambassador from the Emperor of Russia. Previously he had only occupied the lower rank of Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary.

THE *Esperanza* of Madrid states that the Infante Don Juan has decided on relinquishing his pretensions to Royal rights, reserving only the eventuality of his being elected by universal suffrage. This is the Don Juan who has supplied the newspapers of late with a series of manifestos.

THE PARIS NEWSPAPER EDITORS were convoked by Count Morny yesterday week to meet him at his official residence, as President of the Representative Chamber, and there receive instructions as to how far they might venture in the treatment of the debates.

A BOX OF PRECIOUS STONES, worth 22,500 dollars, which ought to have been brought to England last week in the Royal mail-boat Tasmanian, was lost at St. Thomas.

THE PRUSSIAN GENERAL WILLISEN, who went to Paris to announce the accession of William I., was so offended by some remarks which were made by the Emperor of the French that he declined to go to the Court ball.

THE EXPERIMENTAL FIRING from the 80-pounder Whitworth gun at Portsmouth has been brought to an abrupt termination by the discovery of a flaw or rent in the metal at the breech.

MR. FREDERICK H. WHYMPER has been appointed a sub-inspector of factories.

MR. SMALE, of the Equity Bar, has been appointed Attorney-General at Hong-Kong in the place of Mr. Adams, who has become the Chief Justice. Mr. Smale is well known as having been for many years a reporter in Chancery.

THE AMOUNT OF THE NET REVENUES OF FRANCE at the expiration of its different political régimes was as follows:—1789, 577,564,994*fr.*; 1799, 539,679,892*fr.*; 1815, 608,710,672*fr.*; 1831, 812,583,690*fr.*; 1847, 1,096,436,343*fr.*; 1848, 1,139,428,692*fr.*; and 1861, 1,391,186,460*fr.*

MR. G. E. HARCOURT VERNON, late M.P. for Newark, died yesterday week at the M.-rquis of Ailesbury's seat, Tottenham Park, near Marlborough, from rheumatic fever. The lamented gentleman was grandson of the late Archbishop of York.

THE CLEAR GAIN TO THE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL FUND from the oratorio amounts at the utmost to about £600.

LORD PALMERSTON, Lord Derby, Lord Granville, and Mr. Disraeli, gave their annual Parliamentary entertainments on Monday.

THE VICTORIA CROSS has been conferred on Surgeon Reade, of the 61st Regiment, for bravery at Dalbi.

THE ENTIRE FORCE OF CHATHAM GARRISON was employed yesterday week in extensive military operations carried out several miles from the garrison, under the direction of Major-General Eyre, commanding the district.

LOLA MONTES died at New York on the 17th ult. Her coffin plate bore the name "Mrs. Eliza Gilbert."

THE *Morning Journal* (a Glasgow paper) has been fined £3 with expenses, "in the name of solatium and damages," for libel, in so far as the said journal had described the pursuer in the action as one of "two infatuated old gentlemen," famous for their ridiculous complaints before the Circuit Courts of Glasgow. The damages claimed were £30.

A MEAT SALESMAN, Mr. Frederick William Firmin, of Tyler's Market, Newgate Market, was convicted at the Guildhall Police Court on Monday, before Mr. Alderman Copeland and Mr. Alderman Mechl, of exposing for sale five rotten sheep. He was fined in penalties amounting to £10.

PROFESSOR CHALLIS will leave the Cambridge Observatory, but retain the Plumian professorship, and reside in Cambridge, and a member of the University will be appointed to a newly-created office—that of observer. He will reside at the Observatory, perform the duties, and receive a suitable salary.

THE PLAN reported to be entertained some time ago for restoring the Royal tombs in Westminster Abbey has been abandoned definitively, and the only meddling that has been allowed upon them is covering them with a silicious preparation, which, it is to be hoped, will stay further decay, at least for a time.

THE THREE VACANT GOOD-SERVICE PENSIONS placed at the disposal of the Duke of Cambridge have been conferred by his Royal Highness on Colonel the Hon. Augustus Frederick Foley, late of the Grenadier Guards; Colonel Rudolph de Bille, 8th (the King's Royal Irish) Light Dragoons; and Colonel Archibald Inglis Lockhart, C.B., 92nd Highlanders.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

You must not be surprised if you hear of the death of the Earl of Aberdeen. For many years, when he was Lord Haddo, he was so infirm that it was never without difficulty that he could sit out a debate; and the last time that he entered the House it was evident to all that he was much worse, and now, I understand, he lies hopelessly ill; indeed, my informant says that his death may be hourly expected. His place in the House as member for Aberdeenshire is not yet filled up. He was born in 1816, and is therefore in his forty-fifth year, and succeeded his father about a month ago.

The feud in the Liberal party at Leicester has resulted in the return of a Conservative. It originated in 1857, when Mr. Harris opposed and defeated Sir Joshua Walsley. In 1859 the friends of Sir Joshua put up Dr. Noble, and defeated Mr. Harris, and now both the Harrisites and the Walsleyites are defeated, and Mr. Heygate gets the seat. Mr. Harris, before he went to the poll, announced that his canvass-book stood thus:—Harris, 1164; Taylor, 640; and Heygate, 1150. This announcement was signed by the chairman of Harris's committee, who staked his character for its correctness. Subsequently, Mr. Taylor's committee published the results of their canvass, which was as follows:—Taylor, 1084; Harris, 693; Heygate, 1037; and they also staked their personal character that the figures were correct. The real numbers at the close of the poll were—Heygate, 1594; Harris, 1031; Taylor, 974. Taylor's committee must have been awfully deceived, or else guilty of enormous lying.

After the general election of 1859 the *Times* calculated that the Government had a majority of 51; but in the great testing struggle which ensued, when the numbers polled were 638, the Liberals had a majority of only 13. Since then some fifty new elections have taken place; and, having carefully examined "Dod's Companion" for 1861, I find that the Liberals have suffered a clear loss of seven votes, making fourteen on a division; to which must be added two more for Leicester, and, I fear, two for South Wiltshire, which will make the loss eighteen. I am quite aware that all these calculations are deceptive. Perhaps, if a motion of want of confidence were to be made to-morrow, the Government would obtain a large majority. I think it would; but this would be owing to the fact that many of the Conservatives do not want a change. But, temporary circumstances apart, if a regular stand-up fight were to occur, it is clear to me that the Conservative party would show the strongest; indeed, it is understood in the House and at the clubs that Palmerston has not a majority.

There are, however, no signs of a coming fight. On the contrary, there seems to be every disposition to settle down to a quiet Session's work in reforming the Bankruptcy Court, codifying the Criminal Law, and passing certain bills upon local government, and regulating other domestic and social matters; and if that long arrears of this sort of business, which has incumbered the notice papers for several Sessions past, shall be cleared off, this will be a Session long to be remembered. The disappointment manifested by the extreme Liberals on the absence of a Reform Bill in the political programme is very absurd, and at least one-half of it a sham. If Lord Palmerston, in the present balanced state of parties, had launched another bill, he would have been guilty of the wildest folly, and provoked a fate which he would have richly deserved. No doubt a time of quietude is the best time for reforming our political institutions; but then Government, to do this, must have a large majority, whereas the present Government has no majority. The high price of money has wonderfully curtailed the list of private bills. Upwards of sixty petitioners, I hear, have failed to comply with the standing orders, or, in other words, could not post the cash.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Birkett Foster, in last week's *Athenaeum*, is, happily, incorrect; and this most admirable artist is still left to delight all who value elegant conception and elaborate execution. It was Mr. Foster's father whose name figured in the obituary.

Mr. John Phillips's picture of the "Marriage of the Princess Royal" will be exhibited shortly at the French Gallery. Two new portraits of her Majesty and the Prince Consort by Mr. Winterhalter will be on view at the same time.

Mr. G. H. Lewis delivers the next lecture before the Post Office Literary Association on Friday next.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

"School and College Life: its Romance and Reality," is the title of the opening article in the new number of *Blackwood* and of an exceedingly sound, healthy paper. There is no doubt that the creation of the British schoolboy as a hero of romance was by no means an unwise expedient. Properly treated, he makes an infinitely better hero than nine-tenths of those put forward by novelists. He creates almost universal interest, and takes the book of which he is the ornament into countless families; and, when properly treated, he has a sufficient amount of interest to surmount his position, and to ensure him a kindly reception. Such a hero the writer of the article finds in "Tom Brown"; not, indeed, a spotless knight, but a good, honest type of the character intended to be portrayed. The opposite of this character is to be found in those youths whom the Rev. Mr. Farrar delighteth to honour and to limn—Eric and Julian Home, the sentimental nincompoops, the nebulous shadows of that healthy young giant, which Mr. Farrar, in sedulous imitation, had depicted. The article is written in a keen spirit of criticism, but is entirely devoid of any rancour, and will commend itself to the notice of all interested in the subject. As a whole, however, the February number is not specially interesting. There is an article on "Spontaneous Generation," apparently by Mr. G. H. Lewis, if one may judge from the sparkling style and the great variety of authorities quoted, which will doubtless be highly interesting to the scientific reader, but, of course, only appeals to a class. There is a sharp and caustic review of Mr. Davis's "Carthage and its Remains," a paper on the "Transatlantic Telegraph," an article called "Biographical Dramatics," opening with a lofty patronage of, and pity for, actors ("poor mimes for three or four hours a day making bread in the contortions of their faces and inflation of their lungs"), and ending with a record of various unknown dramatists who are enshrined in the work which supplies the title of the article. The series of "Judicial Puzzles" this month examines into the case of Eliza Fenning, without, however, making much puzzle about it, as the writer distinctly avows his belief in her guilt, and in the righteousness of her sentence. Much more to the purpose is his suggestion that a culprit, an *accusé*, should be permitted to tender himself for examination—a proceeding which would much simplify many intricacies of the law. The last article in the number is called "The Foreign Secretary," and its tenor may be guessed from the following extracts. Speaking of Lord John Russell, the writer says:—

"Of all the statesmen of the present century he is the most notorious leader, the worst of lead, the most unreliable of colleagues, the most ridiculous of dispatch-writers, the most famous of Whigs, the most glib, and therefore the most impracticable, of Ministers."

And again:—

"Friendship has its claims, patriotism has still greater claims; and it is for Lord Palmerston to consider whether he is willing to receive the support of the entire country, including the Conservative party, at the price of being with Lord John Russell and Mr. Gladstone, or whether he is willing to come in their obsequy, and fall enfolded in their arms."

Nor is *Fraser* very lively. The article "English Policy in Europe" contains nothing very new or striking, and the British public, which has eight daily journals constantly striking the iron, and battering from it trains of sparks larger or smaller, according to their power and heartiness, scarcely wishes the subject repeated in a monthly magazine. Pleasanter and better is "A Strange Story of Lithuania," a quaint allegory in the Gulliver style, told with much

quiet point and wit. Mr. Whyte Melville's new story of "Good for Nothing" is readable, and that is all; the author affects a "Guy Livingstone" cynicism and knowledge of life which he does not possess, and which reads but tamely at secondhand. A. K. H. B.'s essay "Concerning Solitary Days" is the best paper in the number. There is much sweet pathos in his description of the hunt over the repositories of a lonely man just dead, of an illness in solitary chambers, and of the pleasant placidity of convalescence in your own house. The essayist need not have expressed a fear that this, his most recent work, was heavy and not up to the mark. It may not be so pointed and so brilliant as some that he has written, but there is much in it that very few other men could have conceived or described in so thoroughly Christian and amiable a spirit. Other articles in *Fraser* are a second paper on "Hafiz," a continuation of Mr. Bain's "Phrenological Examination of the Sentiments," a very poor story, "My Last Governess," and the usual "Chronicle of Current History."

Of course, the first article which readers of the *Cornhill* now turn to is the "Adventures of Philip," and he must have a curious taste indeed who is not gratified by its perusal. Resting on his oars, as Mr. Thackeray may fairly be supposed to have been during the pompous dreariness of "The Virginians" and the pantomimical caricature of "Lovel the Widower," he has now, when occasion required, come forth in all his old power, and with all his old humour and marvellous observation. What matter that Lord Ringwood is an exact reproduction (even down to his "cynical grinning" and the display of his "fangs") of Lord Steyne? what matter that the old harp rings out the old tunes? In every page the masterhand seems to elaborate ideas, mere sketches and *sketchettes* of which he had given before, although we, the public, had accepted these former touches as finished drawings. It was felt, not by the present writer merely, who dared to put his thoughts into words, but by many ardent admirers of Mr. Thackeray's writings, that his zenith was past, and here he is writing as tersely, as graphically, and as humorously as ever. The sketch of the Twysden family even he, the great delineator of English modern middle-class society, has never surpassed. Mr. Troilope appears twice in the number—once, of course, as the author of "Framley Parsonage," which is drawing to a close, and once as the champion of "The Civil Service," a paper which, in its lecture form, was duly noticed in this column. "Samples of Fair English" is a good and desirable article, in which the *exempla* are well chosen and apt. "Horace Saltoun" is a very unpleasant story. *Delirium tremens* is scarcely a pleasant subject for fiction-treatment at any time; but when we are introduced to one of its victims in the person of a pretty young lady it is doubly repulsive. A very genial "Roundabout Paper" (adorned with a really marvellous back view of the author) concludes an excellent number of the *Cornhill*.

Mr. Sala's story of "The Seven Sons of Mammon" is the chief attraction of *Temple Bar*, and deservedly so. It is admirably written, and is sufficiently dashed with melodramatic interest to enchain the attention of his readers, and, as should always be the case with serial stories, make them long to know what is coming. Capital character-sketching is there in this number—the adventures in her Parisian salon, her guests and enemies, the fashionable undertaker, and the neighbours who watch the funeral, are drawn with a spirit and fidelity which Balzac could not have surpassed. The entire number is very good. Mr. Oxford contributes a quaint, scholarly essay on "Montaigne," and the Rev. J. M. Bellow has bestowed infinite pains and elaboration on a description of the ruins of Baalbeck, on some of the architectural theories concerning which he throws a new light. The serial story "For Better for Worse" progresses in action and interest, and promises well. There is an excellent technical article on the "Causes of Railway Accidents," a good story, "The Countess Melusine," and a clever paper on "Ancient Classical Novelists." Lucian being the first selected for treatment. The essay "Our Relatives and Connections" breaks off somewhat abruptly. The verse in the number is much above the average, and Mr. Sala's "Travels in Middlesex" are, as usual, full of pleasant chat and humorous description.

Macmillan is heavy this month, though Mr. Henry Kingsley's serial story, "Ravenshoe," progresses well. "The Last of the Protectionists" is a sketch of Lord George Bentinck. There is a sensible paper on "Eton," a fair story, somewhat marred by speculative moralising, "The Ghost he didn't See," a paper on "Metropolitan Distress," by the Rev. J. Llewellyn Davies; a continuation of "Tom Brown of Oxford," and the story of American College Life.

The *Dublin University* is much improved, both in diversity of subjects and in the manner in which the subjects are treated. Among others there is a clever practical article on "Ships in Armour," an honest and scholarly, though not very satisfactory, article on "In Memoriam," the commencement of a new story by the author of "Artist and Craftsman," and a review of three novels—"The Mill on the Floss," "The Woman in White," and "Lavinia"—written with an amount of self-sufficiency and intolerance rarely met with in these days.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday week a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John street, Adelphi—Thomas Chappam, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair. The silver medal of the institution and £2 were voted to Joseph White and William Flann, and £6 to six other men, in admiration of their gallant conduct in rescuing the crew of the schooner *Norval*, of Haulleur, which, during a gale of wind, was wrecked off Portland a few weeks ago. White and Flann had previously assisted to rescue a large number of shipwrecked persons. Rewards amounting to £32 10s. were also voted to the crews of the institution's life-boat stations at Caistor, Norfolk, Cardigan, and Penryn for saving, during stormy weather, eighteen men from the brig *Arethusa*, of Blyth; schooner *Dewi Wyn*, of Aberystwith; and flat *Cymrae*, of Beaumaris. Two life-boats of the society at Whitburn, Cullercoats, Alnmouth, and Newbiggin had also been instrumental in rendering important services during recent stormy weather to several fishing-boats and their crews. The Portowall and Lytham life-boats also belonging to the institution had been the means of bringing to a port of safety the schooner *Mary Jane*, of St. Ives, and the smack *Princess Royal*, of Bangor. A reward of £12 was also voted to the crew of the *Cahore* life-boat for putting off to the help of the barque *Nova Bella*, of Liverpool, bound for Bombay, which was found knocking about the sandbanks off the Irish coast, and afterwards assisting her out of her perilous position. Rewards were also voted to the crews of the various other life-boats of the society, and to the crews of shore-boats, for saving, or attempting to save, life from different wrecks. It was reported that the institution had, during the past month, sent new life-boats and transporting-carriages to Penarth and Llandudno, in Wales. A free conveyance was, as usual, given to the boats and carriages by the North Western, Great Western, and South Wales Railway Companies. The society had others ready to be forwarded to Selkirk, in Sussex, and Irvine, in Scotland. A letter was read from the Commissioners of Customs, stating that the officers of the principal custom-houses in the kingdom would be called on to render the institution every assistance in their power to carry out its humane and national objects. Payments on different life-boat stations amounting to £1616 were ordered to be made. The account-books and other documents of the institution were directed to be sent to Mr. Bobbie, the public accountant, who has been for the past ten years its auditor. The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to Sir L. Perrot, Bart., for his assiduous attention, during the past year, as chairman of the sub-committees of the institution.

THE NEW EXHIBITION.—Sir Joseph Paxton has written a letter objecting strongly to a document issued by the commissioners for the Great Exhibition of 1862 inviting tenders for the buildings. His objections apply to the shortness of the time allowed for tendering—namely, up to the 9th inst.—to the amount which he says the buildings to be tendered for will cost—namely, £250,000—and generally to the loose manner in which the proceeding is, he thinks, carried on. He adds as one of the guarantors:—"While I readily acquiesce in the idea of getting up an Exhibition in 1861 or 1862, to represent the progress that arts and manufactures have made since 1851, I never for a moment contemplated (and I cannot for a moment suppose that the subscribers to the guarantee fund thought otherwise) that it could be seriously proposed to erect a building at much greater cost than the building of the Exhibition of 1851, and which would involve for the building, which may be temporary, a total expenditure, if got up on such a scale, little short of a quarter of a million of money."

OUR ITALIAN POLICY.

SOME important correspondence relative to the affairs of Italy has been presented to Parliament. These despatches embrace the history of events from the 8th of May to the 24th of December, 1860. They include all the questions arising out of the invasion of Sicily and Naples by Garibaldi, the policy of Sardinia in relation thereto, and also with reference to Venice, the condition of the Roman States; and the attitude of Great Britain, France, and the other great Powers during the progress of the revolution in the peninsula. It appears that, after Garibaldi had captured Palermo, the first proposal made by England was that a truce of three months should take place. Sardinia refused to entertain this proposal, on the ground that she possessed no influence over Garibaldi. France was in favour of concerting warlike measures with England for preventing the invasion of the mainland; but this proposition the English Government rejected. The strong opposition which Lord John Russell offered to any attack of Venice by the Sardinian Government, and the vindictive which he subsequently wrote of the proceedings of King Victor Emmanuel in annexing the kingdom of the Two Sicilies to Sardinia, have already been made known by the premature publication of the despatches relating thereto. The papers also contain despatches from Lord John Russell remonstrating with France for increasing her army at Rome, and for defending King Francis at Gaeta. His Lordship considered that the latter act involved "a useless expenditure of blood, life, and money."

EXPLANATION OF AN AMERICAN EX-MINISTER.

Mr. FLOYD, the late Secretary at War in Mr. Buchanan's Administration, and who has been accused of having aided secession in every way by the previous dispatch of arms to the Southern arsenals, and by not reinforcing the Southern forts, made a speech recently in Virginia, after his resignation, giving an account of what he had done in the Cabinet. He thus defended slavery:—

God in his commandments wrote with his own fingers on Mount Sinai, "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's slave;" and, if these fanatics will deal with this subject in a religious aspect, I would have them remember that the first slavecatcher in the history of the world was an angel of God sent by God to take a runaway slave—a negro—and bring him back to his master. It is a hallowed institution, and it seems that in the providence of God it came down through the new dispensation to be preserved and perpetuated in conformity with the will of Divine Providence.

He then proceeds to show that the citizens in the free States have very different opinions upon this subject, and argues that the antagonism between North and South is far too radical to admit of compromise. Coming to the period of Mr. Buchanan's accession to the Presidency, he says:—

By accident beyond merits—and, I assure you, beyond my wishes and aspirations, for God knows I never wanted to go into the Cabinet of Mr. Buchanan—I happened to be placed in an unfortunate position. I laboured there to understand the power of the position and its responsibilities. I soon found that it was full of significance, that it was an armed power for good, and armed with immense power for evil. Whilst your men were aspiring for the Presidency, and whilst I was the subject of vituperation and abuse which I never answered, I undertook so to dispose of the power in my hands that, when the terrific hour came, you, and all of you, and each of you, should say this man has done his duty. Pardon me for the egotism. It is God Almighty's truth, and God knows it. I saw a fissure in the iceberg coming. I knew there was no power between earth and Heaven that could divert it. I understood, as I understand this moment, that, as it had split everything in its path, it was destined to split the Administration of the United States. I stood firm.

This confession certainly indorses the accusation above referred to. It will also account for the transfer of arms and ammunition from Northern arsenals to Southern, and the general preparedness of the seceders in the present crisis. Whilst disagreeing with the Executive as to the policy of the Government, Mr. Floyd bears witness to Mr. Buchanan's integrity of purpose, and gives the following history of late events in the Cabinet:—

The President said to me—and I thought I never saw him in my life look so much like what comes up to my idea of a President of the United States as he looked that evening—he said, "Mr. Floyd, are you going to send recruits to Charleston to strengthen the forts? What about sending reinforcements to Charleston?" I was taken very much by surprise to find the President making this inquiry, indicating, to my mind, a change of policy on his part. I said, "Mr. President, nothing about sending recruits to Charleston." "Don't you," said he, "intend to strengthen the forts at Charleston?" "I do not intend to strengthen the forts at Charleston," says he, "Mr. Floyd, I would rather be in the bottom of the Potomac to-morrow than that these forts should fall into the hands of those who intend to take them. It will destroy me, Sir; and," said he, "Mr. Floyd, if that thing occurs it will cover your name—and it is an honourable name, Sir—with an infamy that all time can never efface, because it is in vain that you will attempt to show that you have not some complicity in handing over those forts to those who take them."

The Secretary of State, General Cass, is introduced; and we are informed why it was that Lieut.-General Scott was summoned to Washington:—

The Secretary of State, General Cass—allow me, gentlemen, to say, as noble a specimen of God's handiwork as ever yet has been made—an honest man, a true man, a good man, a wise man, a great man, that we all once took delight in honouring—he differed in the policy, and he said, "This will never do; these forts must be strengthened, and I demand that they shall be strengthened." Gentlemen, it is a Northern sentiment. Let me insist that you remember the remark; there is a significance in it—it is a Northern sentiment—it is the conviction of our brethren at the North. He said, "There must be force, and there shall be force." The President said to him in reply, with a beautiful countenance and with a heroic decision that I shall never forget, in the council chamber, "I have considered this question. I am sorry to differ from the Secretary of State—I have made up my mind. The interests of the country do not demand a reinforcement of the forces in Charleston. I cannot do it—I will not do it; and I take the responsibility of it upon myself." That is what he said, and the next day this glorious old Premier sent in his resignation. Then, gentlemen, I clasped my hands again. I was sorry to part with him, God knows, because he has done what has seldom been done—he has inspired during four years a feeling of affection in my heart; but when he left I could not help cocking my eye and saying, "Godspeed you, old man, to the North." Thus stood the controversy. In the meantime another had been called upon the tapis. Another man had made his appearance. There was a proposition made to me by the President to send for General Scott in this emergency. . . . What could I say but to send for General Scott? And he came. General Scott is a soldier; he is a General; he has fought our battles everywhere; he is a great General; the Captain of the age, beyond a doubt. General Scott had a programme—it was what I might call an Abrahamsdra; it proposed to ally all spectres of troubles and disagreement, and bring peace to the country. He laid it before me as the Secretary of War, as his superior. I did not like it; I told him I did not like it in very unmistakable language. He went immediately before the President and submitted it to him, and he did not very much like it at that time. I will tell you what it was, and why I did not like it. Gentlemen, Fort Sumter was to be taken possession of, also Castle Pickens, and Fort Moultrie was to be strengthened. The forts in Georgia were to be occupied and held; the forts of Florida were to be taken possession of and manned; the forts in Alabama were to be dealt with in like manner; the forts in Louisiana were to be occupied by the troops of the United States; and, in addition to this, ships of war and revenue-cutters were to be stationed in the waters of the South. There was the programme and there was the plan. I have been nearly four years Secretary of War, and it was not thought necessary to occupy any of these forts. Here, in a line from Chesapeake Bay up to the border line, were numerous forts, much more numerous than those South, and it was not in the programme that any one of these Northern forts was to be occupied. More than that, the troops from the Northern forts were to be removed and sent to Southern forts.

FRENCH NOTIONS OF ENGLISH LAWS.—Lord Brougham, in his work on "The British Constitution," refers to a M. De La Croix, a Frenchman, who has been writing on the same subject. Lord Brougham mentions, as specimens of M. De La Croix's ignorance, the following statements made by him:—"No son," says M. De La Croix, "can succeed to his father's estate without the written permission of the Archbishop of Canterbury, who derives immense revenues from this relic of the feudal law!" "The Lord Chancellor has the superintendence of all hospitals, and is protector of all paupers!" "In the villages the lords of the place—formerly called barons—have police courts for regulating sales and transfers!" "The justice of peace are in some sort the delegates (sub-delegates) of the sheriff!"

M. BERRYER.

It is remarkable that public interest should have been aroused both in France and England at the same time by two remarkable law cases, each of which is intimately connected with the Sovereigns of both countries.

Here, the case of Mrs. Lavinia Janet Horton Ryve, who is the child of her who claimed to be the Princess Olive, daughter of the Duke of Cumberland, has met with an issue so far successful as that she herself is proclaimed the lawful daughter of her alleged parents; whether the next step will be equally easy of attainment may be doubted, although the stake dependent on the decision is a large one. The French case of Patterson v. Bonaparte seems to present even greater difficulty of arrangement, since it relies on certain proofs in which the interpretation of the meaning of the acts of Napoleon I. will have considerable weight. As the whole case is adjourned for the summing up of Merveilleux to the Public Minister, it will be impossible for us to learn at present what effect may have been produced by the brilliant address of M. Berryer, who spoke on behalf of Mrs. Patterson for four hours and a half without interruption. Assuredly, if the cause is to be gained, no better advocate than M. Berryer could be found to set forth its claims.

After half a century of energetic labour and remarkable attainment, this distinguished man seems still to possess the fire and force of his earlier days, while his experience and sagacity have become more profound. Whatever may be the ultimate determination of the Court, his speech must have made a deep impression, since he attacked with singular power and effect the weak point of the whole affair, showing how the repeated attempts of the first Napoleon to annul the marriage had had no effect, even his appeal to the Pope having failed to secure the assurance that Elizabeth Patterson was other than the wife of Jerome Bonaparte, married in the United States of America on the 21st of December, 1803, although another marriage was four years afterwards contracted with the Princess of Wurtemberg.

M. Berryer, to whose talents the whole legal profession in Paris have long been witness, achieved success from his very first appearance at the bar, and would doubtless but for his political opinions have occupied some high position in the State commensurate with his abilities. But M. Berryer has always been distinguished as a staunch Legitimist, and at the Restoration was one of those who defended Marshal Ney, and used all his energies to moderate the Bourbon rule. His political creed remained unaffected by subsequent changes in the Government, and he was celebrated as a counsellor and agent of the Comte de Chambord.

On the occasion of his being elected a member of the Academy, in 1855, his oration contained some allusions which were displeasing to the Government, and it was ordered to be suppressed, although the interdiction only lasted for twenty-four hours, and the position as well as the great talent and sincerity of Berryer were acknowledged by Napoleon III., inasmuch as he was excused from the usual custom of presenting himself at the Tuileries on account of his political difficulties.

CINGALESE CHIEFS.

COUNT EULenburg, the Prussian Ambassador to Japan, when on his way thither, in July last, landed at Point de Galle, and



PORTRAIT OF M. BERRYER, COUNSEL FOR M. JEROME BONAPARTE.

thence proceeded to Candi, the ancient capital of the Island of Ceylon. At the invitation of Mr. Brabrook, the British Commissioner at Candi, the Count made a visit to the Temple of Dalada, where he was presented to the four Cingalese Chiefs portrayed in our Illustration. The following description of these personages and their peculiar costume is given by one of the suite who accompanied the Ambassador to the Temple:—

"Dehigama, the Chief of the Temple, and three other chiefs, Nungawe, Moladandi and Bibile, received the Ambassador in their state costume. Moladandi, a very good-looking old man, was, in respect to birth, the most distinguished of the party; but Dehigama, on account of his great wealth, had been chosen Moodliar, or Supreme

Chief of the Dalada. He wore, with evident self-complacency, a large medal suspended from his neck by a gold chain: this medal he had received from Queen Victoria in token of her Majesty's approval of his loyalty. The dresses of these chiefs were all uniform in style; consisting of the 'serron,' a square sort of garment, gathered in broad folds round the waist and flowing open in front, so as to show white muslin trousers, drawn in at the ankles, and trimmed with lace. The 'serron' is composed of some thin texture of gold and silk woven together. Round the waist is worn a girdle or sash, richly embroidered with gold. Over the shirt is a white vest, fastened by gold buttons set with precious stones, and over the vest a jacket, with full short sleeves descending only to the elbows. The dresses of Dehigama and Nungawe were of silk brocaded with gold: the one blue and the other red. Moladandi's dress was entirely white with the exception of the sash. Bibile's dress was of a very peculiar kind. It was of bright orange-coloured silk, of very thick texture, and elaborately embroidered with flowers, birds, butterflies, monkeys, and various other animals. Their hats were extremely curious, and, as well as those worn by the attendants, were all of uniform shape. They seemed to have been originally round hats with very broad brims, the latter turned up on four sides, thus presenting four projecting corners or cocks. These four corners appeared to be ingeniously contrived to correspond with what were possibly considered to be the four cardinal points of the wearer's head—viz., the ears, the nose, and the tuft of hair at the nape of the neck. The turned-up brim was edged with a plaiting of ribbon; and on the top of the crown there was a gold ornament, encircled by artificial flowers. A very large collar or cape, trimmed with lace, falling deeply over the back and shoulders completed the costume. Dehigama was rather corpulent, with a very good-tempered expression of countenance. Moladandi and Nungawe kept up a continuous motion of their bodies, gently bowing to and fro, which, however, was not displeasing. Bibile evidently bestowed much attention on his personal appearance for his dress seemed to be altogether more finished than that of the other chiefs. His 'serron' was fuller his collar deeper, and disposed in more regular plaits, and his hat was larger and more imposing than those of his companions. His beard was very closely shaved, and his hair was arranged in full curls at the ears. On each hand he wore a jewelled ornament, fastened by a piece of narrow ribbon to the third finger, and fitting as closely as a ring. His appearance altogether betokened vanity and arrogance."

These four chiefs received the Ambassador and his suite in the vestibule of the Temple, and thence conducted them into the sanctuary.

"THE RESCUE OF SIR ARTHUR AND MISS WARDOUR," FROM "THE ANTIQUARY."

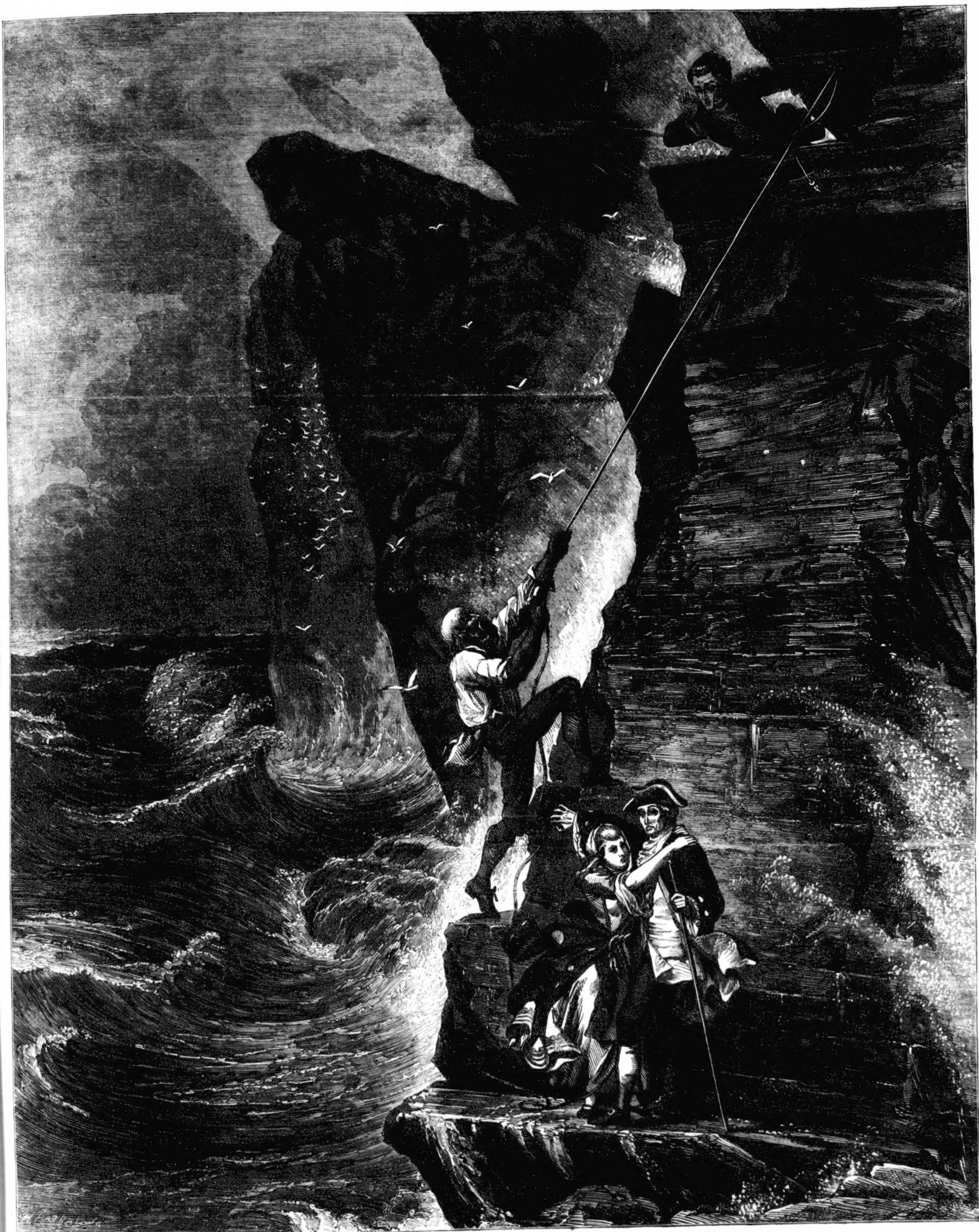
We live in times when the imagination is appealed to at once by the author and the artist, when the illustrated newspaper and the pictorial story-book are amongst our mental necessities, and the art of the wood-engraver has enabled all literature to claim the aid of that rapid appeal to the eye which, while it illuminates the scene described, serves to impress with greater certainty the dramatic force of the language it accompanies.



In the days when the great unknown novelist first astonished the reading world by those stories which opened a new era in fiction this aid was almost unattainable in any but the most expensive editions; and, even when the one solitary engraving embellished the frontis-

piece of those volumes over which we pored with such delight, it utterly failed to convey any striking idea of the scene which it represented, since it was often poorly conceived and imperfectly executed. Since those days how many editions of the great Sir

Walter Scott have appeared illustrated in every style of art? How many painters have found in the pages of the great novelist subjects which were considered fitting for the production of renowned pictures?



A SCENE FROM "THE ANTIQUARY."—(FROM A PICTURE BY J. CROSS.)

But, of all editions of his books, commend us to that which shall contain good woodcuts. It is, perhaps, a natural prejudice on our part, but we always believe in the efficacy of wood-engraving for conveying broad popular ideas. There is so much force in the distinct outline, so much power in the boldness with which it is possible to render action and expression, that for all dramatic writing wood-

cuts seem to be the best, if not the only cheap and popular, illustrations. The picture of which we give an Engraving is from that marvellously-exciting incident in "The Antiquary" where Sir Arthur and Miss Wardour, in their endeavour to get round the rocks to meet the carriage, are hemmed in by the tide, and, endeavouring fruitlessly to escape with the assistance of the vagrant Edie

Ochiltree, are finally rescued by Lovel. All our readers will probably be too well acquainted with this extraordinary piece of writing to make any extract from it necessary; but we believe its simple truthfulness may well be re-impressed upon their memories by the picture, which, catching the spirit of the author, brings the strange, wild scene before them.

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN ON FRENCH INTERVENTION IN IRELAND.

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN writes to Mr. John Martin, one of his companions in 1818, to express his opinion that a French invasion of Ireland is not desirable. Mr. O'Brien first proves the abstract proposition that under no circumstances can an oppressed people achieve real independence, save by their own united exertion, and not by means of an armed foreign intervention, such as the "soi-disant nationalists" advocate in the case of Ireland. He next proceeds:—

It is proposed that a French army—the more numerous the better—should land in Ireland, under the leadership of Marshal MacMahon, and it is assumed that a large majority of the Irish nation will join such an invading force, and that forthwith a national Government will be established which shall for ever thenceforward maintain the independence of Ireland.

It is assumed that England will be unable to offer any resistance to an invading army. Now, past experience tends to suggest doubt as to the certitude of this assumption.

In the sixteenth century the Spaniards endeavoured to subvert English rule in Ireland, and failed, though Philip II. unquestionably possessed resources greater than Elizabeth could command. In the seventeenth century Louis XIV., then unquestionably the most powerful Monarch in Europe, was unable to drive the English out of Ireland, though assisted by the presence and authority of a Monarch who was deemed by many, even of his Protestant subjects, to be the legitimate ruler of both England and Ireland. In the eighteenth century the French signally failed to overthrow English dominion in Ireland. . . . Now, at this moment the relative strength of France, in comparison with that of England, is much less favourable to such an attempt than it was at any of the periods to which I have alluded.

We have seen during the last year with what facility 150,000 citizen soldiers have been rendered capable of taking the field in England. That number could be doubled in six weeks, if an invasion were really apprehended. And although it is asserted that France now possesses a navy which is capable of coping with that of England, yet this is at present only an assertion, whereas it is an incontestable fact that in her mercantile marine England possesses the power of bringing to her aid fivefold—perhaps tenfold—the number of experienced mariners that France can command.

In reference to the French Emperor and his system of government, so much lauded by Mr. Martin, Mr. O'Brien thus expresses himself:—

History has written in indelible record that Louis Napoleon began his reign by perjury and murder, and, in so far as I have been able to scan his conduct since his acquisition of power, I have seen little to make me doubt that he has realised, and will continue to realise, the truth of the dictum pronounced long ago by Tacitus—"Imperium flagitio questum nemo unquam bonis artibus exerceat."—"No one ever exercised legitimately a sway acquired by crime."

He has ruled during ten years, and I admit that within that decennial period France has exhibited an appearance of prosperity which is almost unexampled in her former annals. As much could be said in favour of the rule of the Roman Emperor Augustus, yet what man of free spirit would wish to have lived as the thrall of Augustus?

Before we congratulate France upon her apparent prosperity, we have to inquire how far this prosperity and these victories are due to the wisdom and prudence of Louis Napoleon, and how far they have been purchased by sacrifice, which will hereafter cost the French people both financial disaster and national humiliation.

A spendthrift is always congratulated upon his prosperity as long as his expenditure lasts, yet he is rushing to ruin even while receiving these congratulations. Louis Napoleon surrounded by 600,000 soldiers can keep Europe in a state of fretful anxiety—can inflict many financial privations upon rival nations; but the French should remember that fifty years have not elapsed since their noble country was occupied during several years by a foreign foe, and that similar causes generally produce similar results.

In the meantime what has been the condition of Frenchmen who are entitled to the rights of personal and national freedom? To every French patriot—to every Frenchman who has been unwilling to become the agent of a despotism which he abhors—public life in all its departments has been closed. In America the son of a coalheaver may become President of the Republic; in England he may become the Minister of a free people, and, being placed in the council of his Sovereign by the will of a free people, can dictate their wishes to that Sovereign. But the French statesman must enter the palace of the Emperor as a eunuch enters the palace of an Eastern despot—an emasculated sycophant and slave. If a man of cultivated intellect, such as Montalembert, be desirous to discuss the political interests of his country he must expect a prosecution. If a French Bishop desires to publish his views in relation to the Father of the Catholic Church he finds himself inhibited from doing so except through indirect channels of communication. I have been recently told that in certain circles in Paris interchange of thought is effected by passing manuscripts from hand to hand; and every one who knows anything of French society will tell you that during the last ten years no man has dared to speak out freely in a place of public resort his sentiments upon the political condition of his country, lest he should be overheard by a genteel *mouchard* employed as a spy over the social intercourse of Frenchmen.

In this country we nationalists have had occasion to complain of prosecutions of the press and of trials by packed juries, but by what right can we complain of these iniquities if we are prepared to approve them when perpetrated in another country? Were the French Imperial rule to prevail in Ireland there is scarcely a newspaper, whether Conservative, Whig, or Nationalist, that could venture to publish such articles in relation to government as appear every week with impunity in Ireland. The mockery of trial by jury, as handled in 1818 by the British Government against us, was at least as valid a guarantee for personal freedom as trial before an agent commissioned by the Emperor, or as deportation to Cayenne without trial of any kind.

We are told, indeed, that this system of government is to be modified, and that in future Parliamentary orators are to be allowed to discuss freely the interest of their country; and that the press will be permitted to canvass with some degree of freedom the acts of the Imperial Government. It is difficult to predict what will be the practical effect of these vaunted concessions; and we may form conjectures for the future founded upon past experience; and, for myself, I have no hesitation in saying that, if a system of rule were to be established in Ireland by the French party similar to that which has existed in France during the last ten years, I would prefer to emigrate to the United States, to British America, to Australia, to Spain, to Belgium, or to Greece, rather than endure such a system of rule.

After pointing out the many practical indications afforded by public events, elections, and so forth in Ireland for the last few years, for the general cessation of that popular enthusiasm for legislative independence evoked and so long sustained by O'Connell, Mr. O'Brien observes:—

Seeing these things, how can any reasonable man reproach the British Parliament for delaying—I will not say for refusing—to restore to the Irish people that legislative independence the attainment of which appears to be so much a matter of indifference to the Irish nation? Let us be just even to our foes. The indications of public opinion which have recently presented themselves to the world might lead, not an Englishman alone, but even a sympathising Frenchman or American, to believe that the Irish people were not in earnest when they clamoured so eagerly for Reform.

Let us deal fairly with our adversaries, and first ask ourselves whether the British Parliament would, under present circumstances, be justified in volunteering to abrogate the Act of Union. What evidence has the state of feeling which has prevailed during the last ten years afforded of a nature tending to show that the Irish people desire the establishment of a local Parliament in Ireland?

There are at least eighty seats in Ireland which are subject to popular influence, and for which it would be as easy to return to Parliament a Repealer as to return a Whig or a Conservative, in case such were the desire of the population whom Whigs and Conservatives now represent. An occasion recently presented itself in which every public man in Ireland had an opportunity of testifying his sentiments on this subject, either by his personal presence or by letter. How many members of Parliament availed themselves of this opportunity to signify their adhesion to the cause of Repeal? Two!—The O'Donoghue and Mr. J. F. Maguire.

Now, if a large majority of the Irish nation are car-less about the attainment of a domestic Parliament, by what right does a small section of the Catholic community feel itself authorised to invoke the appearance upon our shores of a French army—an army which could not even communicate with the people of Ireland in the language by which we express our thoughts?

Notwithstanding all the discouraging circumstances which he has so clearly defined, Mr. O'Brien still believes that a repeal of the Union is possible and desirable—a complete union of Irishmen Protestant and Catholic, being the one necessary condition precedent. Until such a healthy state of things is realised he suggests that all those whose patriotism is not of a "spurious and liberal" character should "labour to encourage national feeling in every department of our social relations. Irish literature, education, art, music, public, works, manufactures, agriculture, commerce, national amusements, and

Irish manhood, "by the use of exercise of arms," can, he shows, be promoted and developed under existing circumstances by earnest practical patriots, and to these ends he counsels them to direct their energies for the present.

THE SOUTHERN MARSEILLAISE.

THE following has been sung at the New Orleans Opera House, calling forth immense cheers and waving of handkerchiefs by the élite of the city:—

Sons of the South, awake to glory!
Hark! hark! what myriads bid you rise;
Your children, wives, and grandmothers hoary,
Behold their tears and hear their cries.
Shall reckless fanatics, new mischief breeding,
With mongrel hosts, a thieving band,
Affright and desolate the land,
While peace—equality—lie bleeding?
To arms! to arms! ye brave!
Th' avenging sword unsheath!
March on! march on! all hearts resolved
On victory or death!

Now, now, the Abolition storm is rolling,
Which treacherous States fanatic raise:
Their dogs of war, let loose, are howling,
And Texas cities burn and blaze.
And shall we basely view the ruin,
While prowling thieves, with guilty stride,
Spread desolation far and wide,
With our best blood their hands imbruing?
To arms! to arms! ye brave! &c.

Equality! can men resign thee;
Freemen, who've felt thy generous flame!
Can Abolition hordes confine thee,
Or wrongs the Southern spirit tame?
For long the South has wept, bewailing
That falsehood's dagger brothers wield;
But Independence is our shield:
Stars of the South! we now are hailing.
To arms! to arms! ye brave! &c.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

THE address from certain members of the House of Commons to Lord Palmerston on the subject of retrenchment in the public expenditure was last week forwarded to his Lordship in a letter bearing the signatures of Mr. R. W. Crawford, Mr. E. Baines, and Mr. C. Buxton. The Premier acknowledged the receipt of the address in the following letter to Mr. Crawford:—

94, Piccadilly, Jan. 30.

My dear Mr. Crawford,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of the letter signed by yourself, Mr. Baines, and Mr. Buxton, which transmitted to me the memorial addressed to me by some members of the Liberal party in the House of Commons who have generally supported her Majesty's present Government. I beg to assure you that I am much gratified by the friendly spirit in which this memorial has been drawn up; and I entirely concur in the opinion it conveys, that a due regard to economy should be observed in making arrangements for the public services of the nation. It is the duty of the responsible advisers of the Crown to propose such establishments and such estimates as, according to the best judgment they can form upon the knowledge they possess of the general state of affairs, may appear to them to be requisite for the interest and security of the empire; and it will be the endeavour of her Majesty's Government so to perform this duty as to obtain the approval and support of Parliament and the country.

My dear Mr. Crawford, yours sincerely,

R. W. Crawford, Esq.

PALMERSTON.

The following sixty members "authorised" their names to be appended to the address:—Sir J. Arnot, Kinsale; E. Baines, Leeds; W. E. Baxter, Montrose; T. Bazley, Manchester; A. R. Bristow, Kidderminster; W. Buchanan, Glasgow; Sir R. B. W. Bulkeley, Anglesea; C. S. Butler, Tower Hamlets; C. Buxton, Maidstone; H. C. E. Childers, Pontefract; Sir M. J. Cholmeley, North Lincolnshire; J. Clay, Hull; Colonel H. M. Clifford, Hereford; R. W. Crawford, London; J. Crook, Bolton; F. Crossley, West Riding, Yorkshire; J. D. Dent, Scarborough; Sir C. E. Douglas, Banbury; A. M. Dunlop, Greenock; W. Ewart, Dumfries; H. E. C. Ewing, Paisley; Hon. C. W. W. Fitzwilliam, Manton; Major G. Gavin, Limerick; S. Gurney, Penryn, &c.; G. Hadfield, Sheffield; R. Hanbury, Middlesex; G. Hodgkinson, Newmarket; E. Holland, Evesham; J. Kersey, Stockport; W. H. G. Langton, Bristol; W. Lawson, Carlisle; E. A. Leatham, Huddersfield; W. Lee, Maidstone; W. S. Lindsay, Sanderland; F. Lyons, Cork; J. Mellor, Nottingham; G. Moffat, Honiton; J. T. Norris, Abingdon; G. Onslow, Guildford; R. Padmore, Worcester; C. Paget, Nottingham; H. Pease, Durham County, South; Sir S. M. Peto, Finsbury; G. Pigott, Reading; J. Pilkington, Blackburn; W. Pollard-Urquhart, Westmeath; J. L. Ricardo, Stoke-on-Trent; T. Salt, Bradford; W. D. Seymour, Southampton; Sir J. V. Shelley, Westminster; J. B. Smith, Stockport; M. Staniland, Boston; Colonel W. H. Sykes, Aberdeen; J. A. Turner, Manchester; J. B. P. Westhead, York; G. H. Whalley, Peterborough; H. W. Wickham, Bradford; Colonel H. White, Longford; J. White, Brighton; and J. Wyld, Bolton.

THE BOROUGH OF LEICESTER HAS RETURNED MR. HAYGATE, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of some 600 over his two Radical opponents.

THE DIVISION ON THE AMENDMENT TO THE ADDRESS.—The following members voted on Tuesday night for Mr. White's amendment to the Address:—Mr. A. Ayrton, Sir G. Bowyer, Messrs. J. Bright, J. I. Briscoe, J. Caird, J. M. Cobbett, W. Coningham, R. W. Crawford, F. Crossley, R. Dalglish, Sir C. Douglas, Sir J. Duke, Lord Fernoy, Messrs. C. Forster, J. Greene, S. Grogan, G. Hadfield, J. Handley, G. Hodgkinson, R. Ingham, W. Jackson, E. James, J. Kersey, W. H. G. Langton, W. Lawson, A. H. Layard, A. Leatham, W. Lee, J. Locke, G. Onslow, H. Pease, Sergeant Pigott, Mr. J. A. Roebuck, Baron L. de Rothschild, Baron M. de Rothschild, Messrs. W. Russell, W. Scholefield, V. Scully, T. Sidney, J. B. Smith, J. Stansfeld, Colonel W. H. Sykes, Sir J. S. Trelawny, Messrs. J. P. B. Westhead, W. Williams, J. Wyld. Tellers, Messrs. J. White and Digby Seymour.

THE POOR LAW.—A deputation of poor-law guardians and other gentlemen interested in the administration of the poor law had an interview with Sir Cornwall Lewis on Tuesday for the purpose of recommending the abolition of the law of settlement and the equalisation of poor rates over an extended area. This deputation originated out of a conference of poor-law guardians which was recently held at the London Coffeehouse. Sir Cornwall Lewis concurred with the deputation in the opinion that the laws of settlement and removal might, with great advantage to the ratepayers and the poor, be abolished; but he said that "if they made rateability coextensive with counties they must have a system of administration coextensive with counties," and he did not see how this could be easily carried out. He, however, did not say that the difficulties were insuperable, or exhibit a disposition to uphold the present unfair system. The whole question will be dealt with by a Select Committee of the House of Commons, Mr. Villiers having already given notice of his intention to move for the appointment of such a committee.

ANECDOTE OF GARIBOLDI.—*Fæderlandet* has the following anecdote about Garibaldi:—"A young Danish artist, son of the great sculptor Professor Bissen, of Copenhagen, got an order from Denmark for a bust of Garibaldi. He left Rome for Capri, and the artist was requested to make a beginning at once. In their conversation Garibaldi evinced a lively interest for the countries of the North, and expressed a great desire to know what were the prospects of Scandinavism, by which he meant an alliance of the northern people to stop the inroads of Germany northwards, and the artist having satisfied his curiosity on this point, Garibaldi exclaimed, 'That is right; you to the North and me to the South, and we will check the Germans!'"

DOMESTIC TRAGEDY IN BOKHARA.—A letter from St. Petersburg in the *Hamburg News* says:—"We have received important news from Bokhara. A journal announces that the Emir Nasrulla Beaur had died from poison. The crime was, it is stated, committed with the help of a Jewish physician by the wife of the Emir, who wished to place a man belonging to her tribe at the head of the Government. The poison acted slowly, and the Emir suspected his wife, who afterwards avowed the fact; and she was executed a few days before the death of her husband. Nasrulla Beaur, who had reigned thirty-five years, transferred the Government five days before his death to his eldest son. The Bokharians were well-satisfied with the deceased. Nothing is precisely known as to the character of the new Emir, but he appears to be as well disposed towards Russia as his father."

GREAT FIRE AT BLENHEIM PALACE.

A LARGE portion of Blenheim Palace, the residence of the Duke of Marlborough, with the whole of the celebrated Titian Picture Gallery, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday morning.

The fire broke out between five and six. His Grace had left the day before for London, but the Duchess and family were in the palace, along with several visitors and the ordinary suite of servants and attendants, together with the steward's staff and others engaged in the management of the estate, whose offices are included in the main buildings of the palace. Mr. Edwards, the house steward, was among the first to answer the alarm which the porter had spread throughout the palace, and by the time he had reached the main entrance the buildings adjoining the northern portion of the porter's house were in a mass of flames. Knowing the value of the property—in the shape of paintings, archives of the family, &c.—kept in that part of the palace, Mr. Edwards, the porter, and others, who had by this time been roused from sleep and reached the spot, proceeded to open the doors leading from the corridors to the burning rooms. Once inside the passages of the angle in flames, the first spot reached was the Titian Gallery, the intention of Mr. Edwards and his assistants being to cut out the paintings which adorned its walls. The moment, however, that they had opened the door this was seen to be a work of impossibility, the fire having already extended so far that the roof and the contents of the room were enveloped in flames, and the melted lead pouring down so as to endanger all who attempted to interfere with the work of destruction. With the opening of the doors of the Titian Gallery a current of air was admitted, which caused the flames to burst out in all directions. Indeed, in the course of a few minutes the roofs of the Titian Gallery and an adjoining room fell in. The books in the clerks' and steward's offices, along with the archives, deeds, &c., of the family, kept in a fireproof room, were removed to a place of safety without loss of time, and when this had been accomplished hundreds of willing hands were at work pouring well-directed streams of water from the palace and Woodstock engines upon the flames.

The portion of the palace where the fire broke out is the north-east wing of the outer quadrangle. The whole of this wing has been destroyed, with the exception of the fireproof room. The Titian Gallery was lighted from the roof: not a vestige of its contents remains.

SERIOUS CHARGE OF WILFUL MURDER.—An inquest was held on Tuesday on the body of a child, aged fourteen months, the offspring of a woman named Mary Connor, residing in Mint-street, Borough. It appeared from the evidence, which was very voluminous, that the mother had placed the deceased under the care of some other person at a trifling weekly stipend, in order that she might nurse a child of Lady Fitzroy; that at the expiration of this engagement she again took her own infant under her charge, but neglected it to such an extent as to cause its death from starvation. A verdict of "Wilful murder" against Connor was returned.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE DURING THE ROYAL PROCESSION.—As the Queen was proceeding to open Parliament on Tuesday, and just as the Royal cortege reached Derby-street, a small street leading from Parliament-street into Cannon-row, a man in Asiatic costume broke through the crowd and attempted to thrust a paper into the carriage in which her Majesty was seated. He was, however, immediately prevented: indeed, the Prince Consort himself, apprehensive of some maniac violence, pushed back the hand of the intruder. The man then pulled out a claspknife and drew it three times across his throat. Arrested by the police, he at once received surgical attention. The man's name is Mahomet Ali Khan. He is about forty years of age, and is a native of Calcutta. He is under the impression that he has suffered some wrongs from the hands of the Government.

THE CHATHAM ACCIDENT.—The accident at Chatham has laid bare the defective arrangements in the engineering department. A Court of Inquiry held there has decided that the north gunshed, where the explosion occurred, was unfit for the purposes of a laboratory, and that the direful effects of the accident were increased by the deposit of much combustible matter in the shed which ought to have been elsewhere. They have condemned the shed, and have censured the Sergeant-Major in command. He will be tried by a court-martial.

DEAD DRUNK.—A marine named Mugg was recently found dead in the fore cockpit of the Hero, under repair in Keyham Steamyard, Plymouth. Ryan, another marine, was lying near almost exhausted, and Kilroe, dangerously intoxicated, was discovered in the 'tween decks. All belonged to the night guard, and while on duty broke into the wardrobe stores and drank whisky to excess.

M. VICTOR HUGO ON THE AMERICAN CRISIS.—The following letter from M. Victor Hugo is in reply to a request for permission to publish engravings of his sketch of the execution of John Brown:—"Dear M. Chenay,—You wished to engrave my drawing of 'John Brown'; you now wish to publish it. I consent, and I may add that I think it may do good. John Brown is a hero and a martyr. His death was a crime; his gibbet was a cross. You remember that I wrote beneath the drawing, 'Pro Christo, sicut Christus.' When on Dec. 2, 1859, I foretold to America the rupture of the Union as the consequence of John Brown's assassination, I did not think that the event would follow my words so closely. Now all that was in the scaffold of John Brown comes out of it. The fatal results that were latent a year ago are now visible, and we may from this day consider as consummated the rupture of the American Union—a great misfortune—and the abolition of slavery a great step forward. Let us, then, set before everybody's eyes as a lesson the Charleston gibbet the starting-point for great events."

THE LAST OF THE BRITISH LEGION.—The remainder of Garibaldi's British Legion arrived yesterday week at the Victoria Dock from Gibraltar. They had been maintained fifteen days at Gibraltar by public subscription, and sent home by the Government as British subjects in distress. It will be remembered that they were left on shore at Gibraltar by the captain of the *Melazzo*, most of their personal effects being on board the vessel at the time. They were treated very kindly at Gibraltar by the authorities, the Soldiers' Home being thrown open to them. On arriving in London the poor fellows found themselves perfectly destitute. On application at the office of the Garibaldian Committee, those who lived in the country were supplied with funds to reach their homes, and 5s. to spend on the road, but nothing was given to those who resided in the metropolis. The volunteers looked none the worse for their little excursion, and were all in good health. On Saturday afternoon a meeting of the men was held at the Green Dragon, Fleet-street, for the purpose of deciding what they were to do in their present lamentable position. A deputation was appointed to wait upon Mr. Edwin James, M.P., with a view to lay the facts of the case before that gentleman, and to commence immediate law proceedings for the recovery of their property.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC BANQUO.—A certain small photograph, about the size of our visiting-cards, of which strange tales are told, is now selling in large numbers all over Italy. It is the portrait of an Italian soldier, who, having attempted the life of the King, was cruelly executed. For some time previous to his downfall it is said that this photograph, like Banquo's ghost, haunted the tyrant. Mysteriously enough, and in defiance of all precautions, it is said to have met his eyes at all hours and in all places, until there seemed something supernatural and ominous in its ever-recurring presence. When he knelt before the Virgin's shrine in his morning orisons there, about the neck of the image, hung this photograph. When he attended mass and opened his missal, there was the soldier's portrait. At dinner, when he unfolded his napkin, out fell this identical photograph; and when at night he retired to rest, within the well-guarded sanctuary of his slumbers, there, laid boldly upon the very pillow of his couch, he found this picture, this strange production of an art which he had banished from his crime and terror-haunted dominions. A Garibaldian, whom we have just welcomed back from his generous and dangerous labours in behalf of an enslaved country, show d us the portrait, and said that it was thought in Italy that the King's singular flight from an enemy quite unable to compete with his well-organised and far more numerous forces was to some extent attributable to the state of bewilderment and terror brought about, by these unaccountable incidents. Is this true or not, certain it is that, in consequence of the interest thus attached to the photograph in question, it is rapidly selling all over the newly-liberated country. Most of the English Garibaldini have brought over one or more.—*Photographic News.*

AN APPEAL TO "THE CHIVALRY."—The *New York Tribune* says:—"The young women of Waynesboro', Georgia, in a recent convention assembly, have resolved:—'That we, the young ladies of Burke, reject with haughty scorn and proud disdain all civilities from any gentleman who refuses or neglects to join the ranks of any Southern State that shall in her sovereign capacity withdraw her allegiance from this unconstitutional confederacy; holding it to be self-evident that a dastard's glove can never win a woman's love nor defend her honour.'"

MR. JOSEPH SEVERN has been appointed her Majesty's Consul at Rome. Mr. Severn is well known for his knowledge of the fine arts, and the interest he has taken in matters relating thereto, during his long residence at Rome.

